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1936
J. H. Zerbey Newspapers Inc.
Pottsville, Pa.

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Joseph Henry Zerbey

HISTORY

OF

Pottsville and Schuylkill County
Pennsylvania

Re-Published from

Pottsville "Evening Republican"

and

Pottsville "Morning Paper"

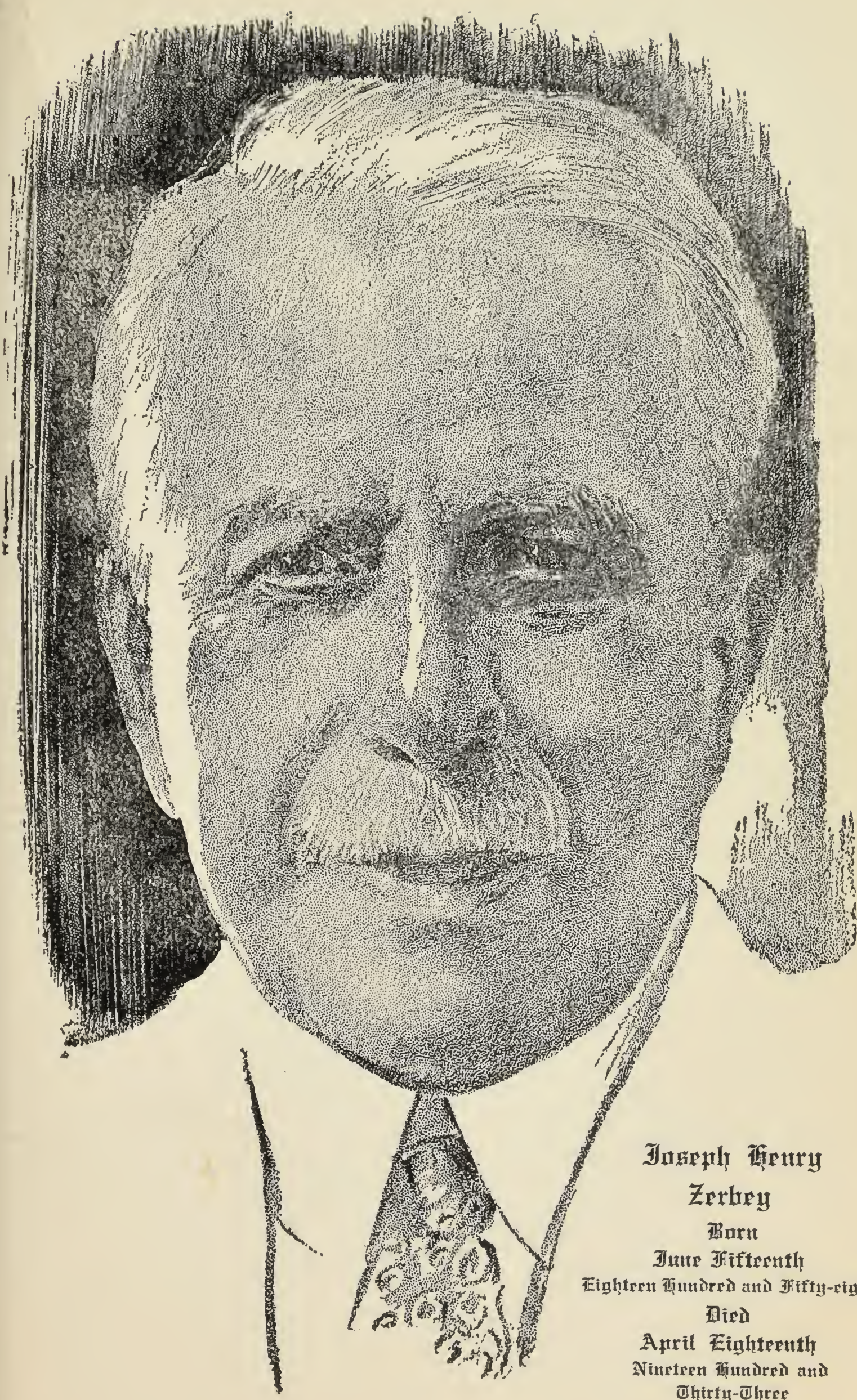
(J. H. Zerbey Newspapers Inc.)

During the Fiftieth Anniversary Year of These
Publications from October 22, 1933, to
October 21, 1934, and Concluded
In 1935

VOLUME I

1934-1935
"Republican"- "Morning Paper"
Print

85
-5
-10-3



Joseph Henry
Zerbey

Born

June Fifteenth
Eighteen Hundred and Fifty-eight

Died

April Eighteenth
Nineteen Hundred and
Thirty-Three

Adieu

*We laid him away
At the close of the day,
Near the hour of the setting sun,
And our hearts were sad
At the loss we bore,
As we met when his race was run.*

*We have shed our tears;
We depart once again
To take up our burdens anew,
For we know he would sanction
our every act,
Endorse every thing we do.*

*So farewell, dear Chief,
May we meet again
When our race has reached the goal,
Until then we shall serve with an
earnest zeal,
To be placed on the Master's roll.*

**--By the Entire Force
of Jos. Henry Zerhey
Newspapers Inc.**

Composed by a member of the corporation

104477

PREFACE

Seventy-five years lived in Pottsville and vicinity—

Fifty years as active editor of a virile evening newspaper—

Eleven years of editorial direction over a hustling morning newspaper—

A ten year period of vigorous schooling as "printer's devil" and staff of the county's then foremost weekly newspaper—

Born at a time when doctors advised against the taking of baths because they opened the pores and caused pneumonia, today I talk across the continent by telephone, listen to the radio, go to the moving sound pictures, see my friends enjoy a trip by airplane, read by electric light, ride rapidly about in autos on paved streets almost barren of horses and wagons, enjoy along with so many, many of my fellow citizens all those comforts and conveniences which it has been my privilege to see invented, developed and become a part of our every-day life. This desire for constant improvement has accorded me the unusual distinction of having assisted in introducing electric trolley cars into Pottsville as the sixth city in the country to have this "unparalleled" convenience and also to see these popular means of conveyance eliminated by the still more convenient bus lines.

Actuated always by a desire to work for the betterment of our community, the realization that much benefit could be brought to our friends and neighbors by our constructive helpful activities not only personally but through the vehicle of our daily visit to the homes of the community, it is a joy to look back and see the fruits of these efforts reach full growth. This background of constant contact with the day-by-day changes in our city and its surrounding county justly entitles me to retrospect and analysis of events covering two-thirds of the entire life of our city and county.

The files of our "Weekly Schuylkill Republican" going back almost to the time of my birth; the files of my own "Pottsville Evening Republican," the daily which I established in 1884; and latterly the files of the "Pottsville Morning Paper," infant of the group; these furnish many reminders of the daily happenings in this section and are crowded with valuable his-

torical reminiscences of events occurring in the early fifty years of local history.

To E. L. Clifford, who as a member of my force for forty-five years, has been of immeasurable assistance to me—

To my son, Lt. Col. J. H. Zerbey, Jr., whose twenty-five years of association in the newspaper business has been of pleasure and benefit to both—

To my managing editors, H. C. Hoffman and W. J. Calhoun, whose loyalty and devotion have helped in many a trying time—

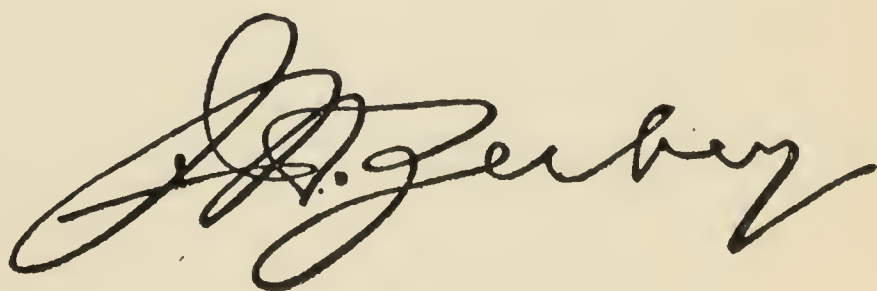
To the members of our staff, Miss Marion Clifford, whose assistance in this work has been great, B. G. Dunlop, Joseph Malia, H. D. Wadlinger, Mrs. Marguerite Knipe Krieg, Miss Mary Foley, Burt Hasenauer, Joseph Conlin and Miss Marian Sheaffer, who have assisted in securing material for these articles—

To those of my friends whose visits have provided suggestions for other articles—

To all those who have assisted in this work, I give generous thanks and appreciation.

Errata there undoubtedly can be found, because in the hurry and hustle of every day editorial work mistakes are bound to creep in and for such errors we crave your pardon. The reading of the newspapers for the same date for the past fifty years, the selecting of what appears to be the most momentous item of that one day and the filling in from recollection and memory will be the method used in writing these articles. A year to year list of events and a generous index will be added.

With the hope that these articles may be of value as a means of ready reference we submit them to our many readers during our Anniversary Celebration arranged by our employes to cover the period from my 75th birthday, June 16, 1933, to the completion of the fiftieth year of the "Pottsville Evening Republican," October 28, 1934.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. H. Zerbey, Jr.", with a large, stylized initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

By J. H. ZERBEY, JR.

(Written as publication began in the "Republican")

Father Zerbey would have been writing this had he been living on June 15th of this year (1933) when publication of the first article was planned to coincide with his seventy-fifth birthday. He passed on April 18, 1933 after having set in motion the machinery of research necessary for the carrying on of this work over the celebration period from his seventy-fifth birthday to the completion of the fiftieth year of his first daily newspaper October, 1934. As his son, I find before me a mass of material—some ready for publication, some only in note

form, lacking unfortunately, much of the personal reminiscences which Father Zerbey was about to add.

The thought back of this "J. H. Zerbey History of Pottsville and Schuylkill County" may best be expressed by the "Preface" which Mr. Zerbey had written as his measuring stick.

The schools throughout the county are co-operating in the preparation of non duplicating borough and township histories.

For the errata of which Father Zerbey speaks we crave additionally your pardon and indulgence.

(Written as publication in book form was completed)

The final article for the "Joseph Henry Zerbey History of Pottsville and Schuylkill County" has been prepared and printed in the columns of the "Pottsville Evening Republican" and "Pottsville Morning Paper", and four of the six bound volumes of these articles are on my desk as I write—on his birthday anniversary, June 15, 1936—a final word for this living monument erected to Father Zerbey by those who were associated with him for so many years.

Since the writing of the "Preface" in June of 1932 by Father Zerbey as the measuring stick for these volumes, and since my writing of the "Explanatory Note" in October, of 1933, until completion of pub-

lication of these articles in February, 1936, this History has been full of life and change, adjusting itself to meet unexpected contributions of splendid material, and growing much more extensive than Father Zerbey contemplated when he started the work.

It would show a marked lack of appreciation if our most generous expressions of thanks were not showered on E. L. Clifford and his daughter, Marion Clifford, on whom fell all of the mechanical problems connected with the production of this work, and much of the editing and preparatory work generally.

Closely allied with these long associates of Father Zerbey, in importance to this work, is a man who

has meant much to the educational circles of Schuylkill County. Professor J. M. Schrope, of Hegins, worked long and arduously in collaborating with the writers in the various school districts, and with our editors in co-ordinating the histories of the boroughs and townships, which were originally planned as brief sketches, but which have become authoritative outstanding features full of original newly-found material.

Professor Schrope's Pageant, based on this work and dedicated to Father Zerbey, which was presented as the "Schuylkill County Historical Pageant" in the spring of 1934, will live long in the memory of the 2,000 school children who participated in it, and the 10,000 grownups who were privileged to see it in its entirety. It was the first work of this sort ever attempted on a county-wide basis and well merited the extensive praise given it.

It has been our desire to give credit throughout these pages to those who have assisted in portions of the various histories. We trust these "credit lines" have omitted no one deserving of such mention. The financial outlay has been, as the reader may readily imagine, very considerable. Its authorization by the Directors of the J. H. Zerbey Newspapers Inc. has been generously approved by Father Zerbey's children (Mrs. Robert Braun, Mrs. Sydney A. Lazarus, Mrs. Uzal H. Martz).

With October, of 1936, it is expected that these six volumes will be available for reference in the School Libraries and Public Libraries, not only in Schuylkill County but in other recognized

cultural centres, such as Washington, Harrisburg, Philadelphia, etc.

In the belief that a History of this character is more valuable as a reference book by reason of a comprehensive Index, much time and effort has been placed on this volume of the work.

To our Mechanical Department, who co-operated so loyally in the publication of this History, our thanks are extended, particularly to those workers who had been associated with Father Zerbey for a long time and who handled this material, not only from a splendid mechanical standpoint, but as a matter of living tribute to "The Chief":—J. Albert Toussaint, Charles B. Schum, William Bonsall, Mary Bonsall.

In addition to the members of our staff, whom Father Zerbey mentioned in his Foreword, should be added the name of Percy L. Knowlton, the dean of Schuylkill County newspaper reporters, together with John Conlin and John Richards, now members of our editorial department.

For the inspiration and for the idea of publishing such a History, our friends will give all credit to Father Zerbey, at the same time sparing him any criticism for errata which more properly belongs to those of us who completed the work after he had passed on.

To Joseph H. Zerbey, an outstanding man who always asked that his epitaph refer to his love for his fellow men, this history becomes a monument by reflecting the accomplishments of his fellow citizens and co-dwellers in his beloved Schuylkill County and its County-seat, Pottsville.

Officers and Directors

J. H. Zerbey Newspapers Inc.

J. H. ZERBEY, JR.,
President

UZAL H. MARTZ,
Secretary

E. L. CLIFFORD,
Treasurer

N. J. CLAYTON,

SYDNEY A. LAZARUS,



List of Employees October 28, 1933

Charles E. Alter
Janet Aikman
William Brennan
William Brown
W. H. Bonsall
Mary Bonsall
Adda Bennie
Marion Clifford
E. L. Clifford
W. H. Carl
Edward Cielinski
John Cielinski
Joseph Conlin
John Conlin
Edward Cake
W. J. Calhoun
William Cody
Thomas Davis
Mrs. Clara Dalton
Daniel Donne
Bertram Dunlop
Philip Donne
Mrs. Mary DeRose
Stanley Ellis
John Flanagan
Virgie A. Flanagan
Marion K. Flanagan
Clarence Felker
Mary Foley
Richard Fahey
John Fronza
John Flannery
Arthur S. Follett
Clair Griffith
Joseph Gallagher
Frank Gable
Theodore J. Gottschall

James Greenwood
Robert Hoke
Singleton Harvey
H. C. Hoffman
Burt Hasenauer
M. E. Kurtz
Peter Kenney
Marguerite Knipe
P. L. Knowlton
Henry Lightcap
Ralph Leuchtner
Clyde Major
Joseph Malia
R. L. Miller
William Manuel
Leo Ney
C. W. Oxley
Daniel Patten
Howard Renninger
John Richards
Daniel Roberts
Edna Sweeney
Vernon Schock
Charles B. Schum
Marion Sheaffer
John Tobin
Albert Tomalavage
J. A. Toussaint
Frank Toohey
Elizabeth Webber
H. D. Wadlinger
Martin Wixted
Michael Walsh
William Zelinsky
Joe Zerbey, 3rd.
J. H. Zerbey, Jr.

Highlights In Life Of

The J. H. Zerbey Newspapers

Oct. 28, 1884—Daily Republican started with four columns to page.

Nov. 18, 1884—Paper enlarged to five columns per page.

Oct. 28, 1886—Six column paper started with installation of new Cottrell Press. Items received by telegraph. Capacity, 1,500 papers per hour.

Sept. 18, 1889—Three services being received, Associated Press, United Press and American Press Services. The latter two were discontinued after a trial period and the Associated Press only retained. The "Republican" is the exclusive Associated Press paper in Schuylkill County.

Mar. 25, 1890—Installed Double Cylinder Hoe Press; Capacity 4,000 per hour.

July 5, 1895—Removed to old Bannan Foundry at Howard Ave. and Railroad Sts., so new office could be built.

Dec. 9, 1895—Occupied new "Republican" Office on present site.

Dec. 9, 1895—New Mergenthaler linotypes were put into service after trial period in Bannan foundry.

Dec. 9, 1895—Campbell new model Printing Press installed in basement. Capacity 15,000 to 20,000 per hour.

Dec. 20, 1895—Public Inspection of new "Republican" building and Press.

July 25, 1910—Annex building occupied by clerical and mechanical departments.

Oct. 18, 1912—New Three Deck, 24 Page Goss Perfecting Press installed; 24,000 capacity, and public inspection of building.

Oct. 28, 1922—"Pottsville Morning Paper" started.

July 28, 1926—New Twin Duplex Presses installed; capacity 32 pages, 30,000 each press per hour.

Mar. 26, 1928—Associated Press News printer installed.

Dec. 18, 1929—Charter of J. H. Zerbey Newspapers Inc. issued, effective January 1, 1930.

How "Republican" Force Was Built

(As Noted by E. L. Clifford.)

HALF A CENTURY has passed since the writer entered the employ of the "Daily Republican" and its allied interests as a printing establishment.

The key to the office was given with instructions to report at 6:30 in the morning, accomplished by walking from the home of a sister over the hill from East Mines, now known as Arnot's Addition, Saint Clair.

The key fitted the door that was reached by walking up three or four steps, entering the main office floor. A broad stairway took you to the upper floor, or the compositors' room, where the "Republican" was made up on one stone near the western end of the room, and the "Weekly Schuylkill Republican" was made up on the stone nearer the hotel side.

The first duty was to go underneath the stairway mentioned, get therefrom a sprinkling can and broom, put the sprinkler under the long half-inch goose neck spigot, fill the same, and then go to the upper floor and sweep up.

First of all it was necessary to pick up the type which had fallen to the floor, and to fish this out of semi-fluid tobacco juice was not the most pleasant task to perform.

The first alley, No. 1, was occupied by Ed. Miller. He earned our disrespect at once the first morning by hailing "hello, old tomat"; the second alley was occupied by Ed. Moyer, and Joe Rehnart, the former being the greatest tall story teller I ever knew. He came from

Mahanoy City where, by his own admission he had served six years as a butcher apprentice, three or four years as a pool room artist, and the same amount as a printer's apprentice, and was already at the "Republican" Office about one year, although he himself was but 24 years of age.

Old Time Printers

Joe Rehnart was a member of St. Bernard's Society of St. John's Catholic Church. The number of funerals necessary for Joe to be in attendance were quite numerous. The cap of the order when worn to work indicated several times a week that there was something doing in the funeral line, and the victim would not rest in peace if Joe were absent, so that the office saw him but a few days a week.

Andy Walker was a good substitute, but Andy was a Civil War vet that thought and did as he pleased.

John Boland occupied another alley, and his whistle with every word containing a letter "s" in it, was much imitated by office boys, yet it never caused him annoyance; he was a quiet inoffensive worker.

Rob Zerbey, rosy cheeked, round faced, with stylish black mustache made him the dude of the office. He was the make-up man.

Some time after, we evidently proved to be a guy that could not be drawn into the jokesmith's circle, such as being sent to Tom McLaughlin at the "Chronicle" Office for a left-handed monkey wrench, hence it failed to give the boys pleasure

they were accustomed to, when we demanded an order from the boss before running errands of this kind, so we were ignominiously dropped, and the next printer's devil was the victim.

Somehow the case was quickly learned, and it was but a few weeks before we were running job press on the raised platform on the lower or main floor which was raised in order to make head room for the basement printing press, and there is where we were broken in to "kicking" press, using a ladder to go up and down from the main floor to the composing room, instead of taking the main broad stairway. Geo. Seiders was the boss, and we are good friends to this day, he boasting 81 years of age, residing here and still going strong.

Soon we were given duties Rob Zerbey had been performing, and Frank Bernard had taken over some of the make-up duties of Mr. Zerbey also, and the writer taking over work in the job room.

Howard Weston was the pressman after Mr. Dailey left, and it was our duty to learn circulation, packing the bundles for county points, some stations of which we now know nothing about. From Mahanoy Plane we had a Reading passenger train running to William Penn, Rappahannock, and the back road to Girardville; another one was Sch. Haven, West Woods, Llewellyn, Branchdale, Tremont and the West End all on one train. Morea, New Boston Junction, Cemetery, Weatherly, etc., was another, besides all the larger North of the Mountain towns.

Well, it was not long before enough job work arrived to keep things going upstairs, and as we came down at night to learn making Stereo Mats, by using a card similar to a blotting card first, two

creamy sheets for the filler, and one white smooth sheet for the surface, making paste out of barieties, flour, alum and water sufficient to boil it to a pasty substance, we had become quite proficient, so much so that cuts made at that time still remain in the Job Room of the present office. (Year of 1890.)

We had a job to finish one night on the little Gordon press, so came down after supper dressed to attend a lecture. In order not to get oil on nice pantaloons, we took a rag, held it in the right hand wound around the index finger, held the rag around the revolving main gear shaft, and when it got to the end of the shaft, "zip" went the end of the finger, having been caught between the "set" bolt and the shaft and the frame of the press. Went to Dr. W. H. Robinson, had the finger dressed, and finished the job, but did not hear the lecture, the title of which was "Running With The Crowd," and yet that title had a better effect perhaps than if we had heard the lecture, for it taught us to be more careful in more ways than one.

Primitive Tin Phone

It was not long before Rob Zerbey was called to the main office and we were left in charge of the job work, while Bernard looked after the make-up of the paper, and we were assisted on Ads. In the main office there was a set of Speaking Tubes, made of tin, about one inch in diameter. There were two stations one to the press room, and one to the composing room from the Main Office Floor. Each Tube had a Mouth Piece with a whistle in it, which could be turned down by a short wire handle so the operator could blow the whistle at the other end of the line, and when the whistle blew, you went to the tube phone and said, "hello," and the message was delivered from the one station.

The telephone was a wall phone with a bell to ring by turning the crank, there being no central at first, you simply rang "One" for say the Reading Station. "Two" perhaps for the Court House; "One long and one short" for some other station, and so on to the extent of the phone service.

Mr. Elliott occupied the rear room with the reporters. He was deathly afraid of the phone when lightning flashed, for the receiver emitted dangerous flashes that gave reason for his many hasty exits when a storm appeared or if he stood upon a damp floor, a circuit was formed that gave him a shock from which he was slow to return after another hasty retreat.

The jokes played on the apprentices were fun for the projectors, but not so much so for the victim. For instance, Bob Hooper was informed that when an operator set type so rapidly that the "stick" became hot it was his duty to take it at once and dip it in the bucket of water. The way the "stick" became hot was by placing it on the steam pipe which heated the room from the boiler in the cellar. It took Bob several days to learn the heat was not due to rapid composing.

Another type setter had been employed and he was along the literary make-up of man, every book agent was hissed onto him. Mr. Zerbey did not know of these agents getting upstairs. But "Pointer" Williams was at this time working for the Express Co. and after a visit by a spurious solicitor the boys told him to ship a set of books to this man fond of literature. "Pointer" brought the books, demanded something like \$65.00 C. O. D., and the pile of books made up in the office job room was worked to a finish, for "Pointer"

had orders not to take the package back but to get his money. Until the matter was settled, there were some employees laid off for a day or two, on the head of the fight that followed this "sale" of books.

From the earliest pay roll book obtainable, I find the following, although Harry F. Bushar, Frank (Grummix) Seeling, and other employees came into the office before this time. However, here is the roster found recently:

Pay Roll Book No. 2 comes in at this time. The date is May 12, 1893:

The roll is as follows:

J. H. Zerbey, Proprietor;
C. D. Elliott;
R. A. Zerbey;
C. H. Grief;ff;
John Boland;
Albert Roehrig;
Jacob S. Foster;
F. P. Bernard;
Horace Kirk, or Harry Kirk;
E. L. Clifford;
Fred Fernsler;
Robert H. Hooper;
Harry Graeff;
Reno Helms;
Wm. B. Tindle;
Jesse Trezise;
Harold Lloyd;
Nathan Miller;
Horace Ely;
Chas. B. Schum;
Geo. W. Boyer;
Chas. W. Oxley.

The Apprenticeship Sheet shows that the date of Registry is as follows:

R. H. Hooper, July 22, 1889;
Reno Helms, June 6, 1890;
Wm. B. Tindle, Aug. 31, 1891;
Jesse Trezise, June 7, 1892;
F. Moerschbacher, Aug. 22, 1892;
Howard Lloyd, Oct. 29, 1892;
Nathan Miller, Dec. 12, 1892;
Howard Ely, Jan. 4, 1893;
Charles Schum, Jan. 25, 1893;
Frank S. Batdorff, Nov. 20, 1893;
Harry Hamilton, Feb. 22, 1894;
Chas. L. Patterson, July 2, 1894;
Newton Morgan, July 2, 1894;
George Post, June 4, 1895;
Claude Shelly, Sept. 9, 1895;
Walter Keen, Mar. 30, 1896;
Lewis Johns (Jones), Nov. 19, 1896;
Samuel Brommer, Jan. 22, 1897;
Fred Glenwright, Feb. 22, 1897;

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Then came the following four new men:

Harry Hause, June 2, 1893, for few days;
 Frank E. Williams, July 14, 1893;
 Andrew Walker, July 28, 1893;
 A. H. Redelberger, Aug. 4, 1893;

And then came a blow:

Robert A. Zerbey dropped out of the roll Nov. 17, 1893; died suddenly of what is now termed Grippe.

J. Albert Toussaint enters Nov. 24, 1893;

Oscar Fisher, Dec. 15, 1893;
 Harry Hill, Jan. 12, 1894;
 Wm. M. McLaughlin, Jan. 19, 1894;
 Jos. Glaser, Jan. 19, 1894;
 Wm. Hurley, Jan. 19, 1894;
 John Beck, Aug. 17, 1894;
 John P. Carroll, Nov. 9, 1894;
 Leroy Farne, Dec. 21, 1894;
 Geo. Miller, Dec. 21, 1894;
 Wm. C. Stocks, Dec. 21, 1894;
 Jacob Kuhl, Jan. 11, 1895;
 Philip Maher, Jan. 11, 1895;
 Frank Bancroft, Jan. 11, 1895;
 J. Thumm, Jan. 25, 1895;
 Geo. Rourke, Feb. 1, 1895;
 Horace Smith, Feb. 15, 1895;

———Rishel, Feb. 15, 1895;

Harry Harper, Feb. 15, 1895, short time;

———Esterley, Feb. 15, 1895;

Jacob S. Foster drops from roll May 31, 1895;

J. J. O'Connor, June 7, 1895 to Oct. 23, 1896;

George Post, June 7, 1895;

Ed. Hine, July 5, 1895, for Building Account;

Watkin Howell, July 5, 1895, for Building Account;

R. S. Carlisle, July 5, 1895, for Building Account;

Jos. Weismiller, July 5, 1895, for Building Account;

Earl Hannum, July 5, 1895;

Jerry Snyder, July 12, 1895, Building Account;

I. B. Rich, machinist, July 12, 1895, Building Account;

Edward Moloney, July 19, 1895, drops from roll Sept. 17, 1895;

Here is a day record:

Frances Zerbey; Jay Zerbey, July 26, 1895;

S. W. Cooper, Aug. 2, 1895;

S. J. Sullivan, Aug. 8, 1895;

Fred 'Dip' Heisler, (Haeusler) machinist, Nov. 1, 1895, Building Account;

David Weand, machinist, Nov. 1, 1895, Bldg. Acct.;

Miss Leonore Neice, Nov. 22, 1895;

J. W. Anthony, Dec. 6, 1895;

Geo. C. Wynkoop, Dec. 13, 1895;

Arthur M. Stong, Dec. 13, 1895 (died as ex-State Treasurer. Colorado);

J. J. O'Connor, back Dec. 20, 1895, away few months;

Miss Lizzie Smith, Feb. 7, 1896, for short time;

Fred Fernsler drops out Feb. 14, 1896;

W. Keen, Apr. 10, 1896;

D. Herb, May 29, 1896;

John Shay, June 12, 1896;

W. Shirey, July 3, 1896;

Albert Beyerle, July 10, 1896;

Samuel Shelley, July 10, 1896;

A. Beisel, July 31, 1896;

W. H. Bonsall, Oct. 9, 1896;

R. Sigfried, Nov. 6, 1896, for part time work;

Lewis Jones, Nov. 20, 1896;

H. F. Graeff, Jan. 22, 1897;

S. Brommer, Jan. 22, 1897;

F. Glenwright, Feb. 26, 1897;

J. W. Anthony, drops out April 9, 1897;

Geo. A. Harris, June 8, 1897;

W. Yahn, Aug. 13, 1897;

Chas. D. Arters, Sept. 7, 1897, for short time;

N. Mennig, Feb. 25, 1898;

Chas. A. Kershner, May 20, 1898;

Horace Smith leaves for time, presumably for Spanish American War, 1898;

Guy Winter, May 6, 1898;

Fred Fernsler, occasionally, Jan. 15, 1899;

Howard Ely, Oct. 1, 1899;

F. G. Glenwright, stops Nov. 19, 1897;

F. Batdorff, Oct. 21, 1898;

R. B. Sinton, Nov. 25, 1898;

W. H. Bonsall, returns Dec. 10, 1898;

Miss Ida Sigfried, few days, 1898;

Miss Carrie Neice, few days, 1898;

E. Uttermul, few days, 1898;

A. J. Sinton, Jan. 13, 1899;

Miss Rose Tucker, Jan. 20, 1899;

Wm. Smith, Mar. 24, 1899;

Jos. Burns, Apr. 14, 1899;

Horace Smith, returns Mar. 17, 1899;

Charles D. Elliott, drops from the roll, July 21, 1899.

Mrs. E. Z. Elliott enters Aug. 11, 1899;

E. W. Moloney enters Sept. 8, 1899;

John Boland, ends Sept. 8, 1899;

J. W. Anthony returns Oct. 27, 1899;

J. M. Lambruskini, Dec. 8, 1899;

Horace Smith ends Jan. 19, 1900;

H. C. Hoffman enters Mar. 9, 1900;

R. H. Hooper ends Apr. 27, 1900;

Reno Helms drops out April 27, 1900;

M. A. Saylor enters May 11, 1900;

Harry A. Frasier, May 18, 1900;

R. L. Hummel, June 15, 1900;

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Jay Zerbey back for few weeks,
July 13, 1900;
Curtis Sterner, Aug. 3, 1900;
Guy Winter ends Aug. 17, 1900;
Miss Leonore Neice drops out Aug.
24, 1900;
Geo. Scharltle, Jan. 18, 1900;
Miss M. Neice, for Supreme Court
work, Jan. 25, 1901;
Miss Ida Sigfried, Miss Frances Zer-
bey and Junior, Jan. 25, 1901, on
Supreme Court work;
H. A. Hannum, Mar. 1, 1901;
W. H. Bonsall, ends Mar. 1, 1901;
C. A. Sterner a regular, Feb. 22, 1901;
Jos. W. Frost, Mar. 15, 1901;
Harry Hill, Mar. 29, 1901;
Miss M. Frost, few weeks, Aug. 9,
1901;
W. Lloyd, Sept. 13, 1901;
Geo. C. Wynkoop drops out Dec. 20,
1901;
August Pasquay, Dec. 27, 1901;
A. Cooney, Jan. 3, 1902;
Miss Lizzie Haverty, Dec. 27, 1902;
Miss Mary Bonsall, Mar. 14, 1902;
W. H. Bonsall for short time, Mar.
14, 1902;
John A. Bechtel, Apr. 18, 1902;
Frank Shutt, Apr. 18, 1902;
Frank W. Dunn, Apr. 18, 1902;
Merritt Berger, Apr. 18, 1902;
A. J. Smith ends May 9, 1902;
N. Mennig ends May 9, 1902;
W. Scharltle, June 27, 1902;
R. B. Sinton ends June 27, 1902;
Horace Smith returns Aug. 1, 1902;
R. L. Hummel ends Aug. 15, 1902;
B. Wertz, Aug. 27, 1902;
E. H. Mortimer, Oct. 17, 1902;
M. Berger, Oct. 3, 1902;
Guy J. Wadlinger, Oct. 31, 1902;
A. Meschick, Nov. 21, 1902;
Horace Smith ends Oct. 3, 1902;
H. Waters, Jan. 2, 1903;
W. H. Bonsall back Feb. 17, 1903;
Irvin Sinton, Feb. 27, 1903;
J. F. Bowes, Mar. 6, 1903;
Wm. H. Zerbey, Feb. 27, 1903;
Geo. Goodman, Apr. 10, 1903;
Miss Frances Zerbey, Jan. 9, 1903;
regular assistant;
Jos. W. Frost ends April 24, 1903;
A. Finch, Aug. 18, 1903;
C. Jenkins, Aug. 18, 1903;
H. C. Ivory, Sept. 4, 1903;
E. Schreiner, Oct. 2, 1903;
Harrison Oliver Jan. 22, 1904;
Klitsch, Feb. 26, 1904;
Dennis Shay, Apr. 1, 1904;
R. G. Bowen, Mar. 10, 1904;
Henry Wessner, May 5, 1904;
W. H. Ent, Dec. 13, 1904;
John A. Bechtel ends Dec. 23, 1904;
H. Renninger, Feb. 17, 1905;
M. Liddle, June 9, 1905;

Jay Zerbey and later noted as
J. H. Z., Jr., July 21, 1905;
Ralph Dreher, Aug. 18, 1905;
Miss Rose M. Tucker ends Sept. 15,
1905;
Miss V. Seny Fry, Sept. 15, 1905;
J. Bishop, Nov. 3, 1905;
Miss Stella Williams, Dec. 1, 1905;
Paul Purcell, Jan. 19, 1905;
George Hostetter, Mar. 7, 1906;
Frank Rogers, Apr. 6, 1906;
A. Harvey, Apr. 27, 1906;
Peter McDonald, June 22, 1906;
Fred Breiningner, June 22, 1906;
J. Buckley, June 22, 1906;
Edmund Brennan, July 6, 1906;
C. Layson, July 20, 1906;
Harry W. Brown, Aug. 24, 1906;
Wm. Spotts, Sept. 14, 1906;
John Hoffman, Nov. 9, 1906;
John Carroll, Oct. 5, 1906;
Miss Stella Williams ends Nov. 9,
1906;
C. A. Sterner ends Jan. 25, 1907;
J. Cliff, Dec. 7, 1906;
H. Weiner, Dec. 14, 1906;
Miss Anna Lundy, Dec. 14, 1906;
Raymond Schuster, Feb. 1, 1907;
Wm. Bernard, Feb. 1, 1907;
Miss Edna Reese, Mar. 8, 1907;
Jos. Meiswinkel, Apr. 5, 1907;
Wm. Goodman, Apr. 5, 1907;
Wm. J. Calhoun, May 10, 1907;
J. Malone, May 17, 1907;
J. H. Zerbey, Jr., July 12, 1907;
G. Goodman, July 12, 1907;
I. Orwig, Aug. 16, 1907;
S. D. Gilger, Sept. 6, 1907;
John Carroll ends Feb. 28, 1908;
H. S. Kirk, Dec. 4, 1908;
H. D. Hesser, Dec. 11, 1908;
H. W. Brown ends Dec. 4, 1908;
Albt. Yeasteadt, May 14, 1909;
Edwin Aulenbach, June 11, 1909;
Harry Strause, Sept. 3, 1909;
H. D. Hesser ends Dec. 10, 1909;
J. G. Shumway, Dec. 10, 1909 for short
time;
G. F. Weaver, J. Fincher, J. Wess-
ner and M. Williams appear for
short time Jan., 1910;
Jos. Hohman, Apr. 1, 1910;
"Slim" Jones, Apr. 15, 1910;
Chas. Shelley drops Feb. 4, 1910;
C. W. Oxley drops Feb. 4, 1910, re-
turned Sept. 22, 1911;
Jos. Burns drops Feb. 4, 1910;
Harry M. Search, May 10, 1910;
Fred Swartz, May 20, 1910;
Rudy, May 20, 1910;
H. P. Berrang, July 1, 1910;
Harry Ammon, July 22, 1910;
Thos. Frizzel, Aug. 26, 1910;
John Lefkowitz, Aug. 26, 1910;
R. Ziegler, Sept. 9, 1910;
Robt. Knecht, Sept. 16, 1910;

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Miss Margaret Kenney, July 29, 1910;	Miss Marion Clifford, July 14, 1917;
Wm. Bernard, ends Oct. 21, 1910;	Jos. L. Conlin, Jan. 7, 1930;
R. H. Buddell, Nov. 25, 1910;	John Conlin, Jan. 4, 1930;
Wilbert Moser, Dec. 16, 1910;	Edw. Cielinski, May 6, 1923;
W. Gumph, Dec. 31, 1910;	John J. Cielinski, Aug. 1, 1925;
H. Schreader, Jan. 27, 1911;	Philip W. Donne, June 1, 1923;
R. C. Fidler, June 9, 1911;	Mrs. Helen Donne, June 1, 1917;
Wm. Cole, Aug. 18, 1911;	Miss Grace Donne, Oct. 11, 1918;
Jas. Martin, Oct. 20, 1911;	Danel Donne, June 1, 1925;
J. Mauger, Apr. 5, 1912;	Thos. A. Davis, June 3, 1926;
Geo. Koegle, Apr. 2, 1912;	Bertram G. Dunlop, Mar. 24, 1927;
Geo. Scharfle, Sept. 20, 1912;	Clara A. Dalton, Jan. 2, 1930;
W. E. J. Martin, Sept. 27, 1912;	Mrs. Mary E. DeRose, Sept. 1, 1930;
Norman Pugh, Dec. 27, 1912;	Stanley Ellis, Apr. 7, 1927;
David Musket, Feb. 21, 1913;	Miss Virgie A. Flanagan, Sept. 24, 1915;
Frank Toohey, Mar. 21, 1913;	Miss Marion Flanagan, July 14, 1917;
Jos. Showers, June 27, 1913;	John J. Flanagan, Dec. 27, 1912;
H. C. Albright, Sept. 26, 1913;	John W. Flannery, Oct. 1, 1916;
Lewis Mader, Sept. 26, 1913;	Clarence Felker, Sept. 21, 1923;
N. Lambert, Sept. 26, 1913;	Arthur S. Follett, Aug. 21, 1920;
Wendell Meadows, Oct. 17, 1913;	Miss Mary E. Foley, Apr. 7, 1927;
Mrs. E. A. MacGuinnes, Mar. 29, '14;	Theo. J. Gottschall, May 22, 1924;
Ruth Miller, July 31, 1914;	Clair M. Griffith, Apr. 3, 1924;
Geo. Roberts, Nov. 20, 1914;	Jos. Gallagher, Sept. 1, 1925;
Burt Dunlop, Dec. 18, 1914;	Wm. F. Gable, June 3, 1926;
Patrick Smith, Sept. 3, 1915;	Miss Gladys E. Harvey, Oct. 5, 1923;
Chas. Weller, Mar. 31, 1916;	Burt J. Hasenauer, Aug. 21, 1930;
W. J. Laubenstein, July 7, 1916;	Peter J. Kenney, Nov. 5, 1922;
G. L. Whitmeyer, Sept. 19, 1916;	Miss Marguerite Knipe, Aug. 20, '26;
Carl Keeny, Apr. 13, 1917;	Henry Lightcap, Dec. 1, 1929;
Mrs. L. S. Reid, Aug. 24, 1917;	Fred J. O'Connor, Sept. 18, 1918;
Nelson Martin, Jan. 18, 1918;	Danl. I. Patten, May 5, 1927;
R. C. Shearer, Mar. 21, 1918;	Danl. Roberts, Oct. 21, 1922;
Warren Kinzey, 1926;	John J. Richards, Nov. 27, 1922;
Michael Onuschko, Mar. 1, 1927;	Geo. V. Shock, Jan. 7, 1926;
Harold Kinzey, 1927;	Edna E. Sweeney, Dec. 20, 1926;
Augusta R. Yuengling, Jan. 16, '30;	John Tobin, Jan., 1920;
The following employees enter the	Albert G. Tomalavage, Apr. 27, 1927;
pay roll list as indicated:	Miss Elizabeth I. Webber, Sept. 7, 1923;
C. E. Alter, Feb. 1, 1913;	Herman D. Wadlinger, Nov. 12, '23;
Miss Adda Bennie, Dec. 10, 1922;	Michael Walsh, Dec. 11, 1924;
Miss Patience Berlin, Aug. 28, 1924;	John W. White, May 1, 1930;
Wm. J. Brennan, Feb. 3, 1927;	Wm. J. Zelinsky, June 7, 1926.
Wm. H. Carl, Sept. 24, 1913;	

Pottsville In Early Days Of The "Republican"

(By E. L. Clifford)

AS A visitor of Pottsville in boyhood days, it is with pleasure the writer describes it as he saw it then, with the eyes of a little boy, coming as he did from Frackville where he then resided.

Stephen Girard had abandoned his planes shortly before, yet the old levels were quite plain along the highway, as well as the plane that carried his coal from East Bear Ridge and Girardville from Mahanoy Plane directly opposite the site of East Bear Ridge, up to the top of the hill at Frackville, making a deep cut in the mountainside near the arch under the Reading on the Maizeville, also at that time, the fork of the Mahanoy Plane road.

Going to Pottsville was a great anticipation. It was an epoch in the life of a youngster. You took a train at Frackville, wended your way down the grade to New Castle and Saint Clair, which was attended with much danger from rocks falling away from the deep cuts, blocking the roadway at times.

From Saint Clair to Pottsville you went through Port Carbon, stopped at that station, then stopped at Palo Alto, where you walked from the train up the path to the road, where a little telegraph station stood; no regular station.

Around the bend you went to Mt. Carbon, and rounding that curve the first sight of the Henry Clay Monument appeared. Never has a monument seemed so gorgeous

since that day. There was never a greater monument built in the mind of that youngster though he has seen some of the greatest in the world. First impressions are lasting.

Crossing the river over the covered bridge at Mount Carbon was another event, then backing up to Pottsville where the station was located at Union and Railroad Sts. You stepped out of the train onto the platform, walked up the stairs to the main ticket office, where the agent was located behind grill work, quite impressive. Down the steps you went to the Union Street side, and climbed up to Centre St.

Skyscrapers

Ah! there was a sight! Skyscrapers lined the street, and though a Woolworth or an Empire building has many times since been viewed, nothing was as impressive as those Centre Street buildings at first sight.

The American House was on the present site of the Bergen furniture store. Across the street were the Woodside buildings, and then came Trinity Church! Westminster Abbey and famous cathedrals have been visited since but nothing can compare to the first glimpse of Trinity Church through youthful eyes.

On Centre Street at the corner of Union, the old one horse street car always stopped as it went tinkling along with a little bell attached to

the horse collar, and "Daddy" Pflueger at the reins, with the horse trotting down from Twelfth Street through Twelfth to Market, down Market to Centre, on the way carefully attending to brakes to prevent disaster, and at Centre ambling its way to Mount Carbon, where the horse was unhooked from the forward end, and hooked to the rear, which now became the forward end, and on again it went up Centre to the Union Street corner where it was supposed to take up its precious load of humanity.

Did we ride?

We did not. We walked to Twelfth Street, and what marvelous sights greeted our view!

Here was Lawton's Hill fairly toppling over into the town on the northeast, Court House Hill on the north, Bunker Hill on the south, and Sharp Mountain looming over it, while Tumbling Run mountains maintained a solid background that was as formidable as nature could provide.

The mountains of ice peaked tops from Alaska to Tiajuana, Mexico have had no summits to compare to those viewed for the first time.

Then the street itself. Penn Hall was a building of huge proportions whose portals I was not destined to cross for many years, the Bright Hardware Store, then the Merchants hotel, now the Necho Allen, and I forgot the Redelberger Depot House, across from Bergen's at Union Street. The John M. Miller stationary store, Centre and Howard, Richard R. Morris' dry goods store, where Pomeroy's now are located, Rosengarten's green grocery store, Centre and Mahantongo, where the boys "hooked" provisions before hiking to Tumbling

Run, the Esterley's on corner of Centre and Mahantongo.

As to the banks, many locations were then as now, but noted as follows; Safe Deposit next to Trinity Church, across the street was the Government National Bank, with Merchants Exchange Bank a few doors below the present Miners National Bank. The Mountain City Bank was at corner Centre and Norwegian, where now the Safe Deposit is located. The Pennsylvania Bank is in the same location as in the early days, with a First National Bank shown at 110 Centre Street, since which time all numbers have been changed and this presumably was at or near Centre and Market, with a German Banking Co. at 5 West Market St.

Thompson's Hardware Store was at corner Market and Centre, with John Williams' big brown bear on the opposite corner announcing a hat store. This was quite impressive and nerve-racking

Harry R. Foster was a gas and steam fitter at 6 East Market Street, and since then Mr. Foster has told me he has passed through every conceivable manner of injury without once losing his nerve. He has been blown out of trenches, thrown out of buggies, crushed in railroad wrecks and dear knows what all, yet today he is just as happy as in the days of long ago.

John F. Gressang was a furniture dealer at Centre and Union, P. W. Sheaffer was a civil and mining engineer at 125 Centre St., and his home was at 62 Centre, which appears to have been down South Centre Street, differently numbered then.

The Mortimer family had most every kind of business in those days, from a hotel to a grocery

store with jewelry and dry goods and clothing in most up-to-date establishments.

These were the days when merchants took their chairs out on the front pavements, and in their shirt sleeves sat and watched the world go by each evening, through the store remained open until late hours.

Whitfield's flour and feed store was near Norwegian and Second and Fisher's jewelry store remained in square near Mahantongo on Centre until the past generation.

Jacob Miehle was a merchant at 375 Centre St., which was apparently beyond Laurel. Mr. Miehle never failed to show visitors to his home, the cart from which he pushed his wares in order to regain health, and admirably succeeded, becoming Pottsville's leading merchant in later years.

W. M. Zerbey, curtain, stationery and wallpaper store was located where W. B. Hill now has his music store.

Union Hall and the Academy of Music about this time became interested in theatre specialties, while the bands of the town played from their respective places as follows: Jones' Cornet Band, 2d and Market, John S. Jones, leader; Mountain City Cornet Band, Christ Dell, leader, in Saengerbund Hall, and Eureka Cornet Band, John B. Jones, leader, in old school house on Laurel St.

To get back to the early visit to Pottsville, we walked to the 12th Street Station, took a car for Minersville, with seats of plain board located on both sides of the car, and another long bench in the center. That was the old People's

Railway Co., which station had been burned down shortly before our visit and a cheap, wooden building replaced it.

Over to Minersville we went and visited at the home of Samuel Berrett, who with his family emigrated from England where parents of the writer knew them, and were lifelong friends.

Mr. Berrett had a large family to support, and as work was slack at the mines, he having previous knowledge of butchering, decided to try his hand in that line again. He was seated in the room while his wife was washing the baby one morning, when a thought struck him. He picked up some of the baby's undies, stuffed them in a large hand purse of his wife until it bulged, then drove into Weissinger's stock yards out at Nichols and Coal and liberally displayed the first green back around the roll of babe's garments, looked over cattle and hogs and made a dicker with Mr. Weissinger for some. He had his cattle driven over, took the hogs in his wagon, and off he started on his butcher career.

He killed the cattle, peddled it around Minersville and vicinity, then came back to Mr. Weissinger with his purse filled with cash, paid his bill, and for half a century or more he and Mr. Weissinger remained the best of friends and the story was often laughed over, for he had but one dollar when he opened his butcher shop, and Minersville people will remember that goodly household till memory fails.

Well, we were visiting at this home and it was a great place to visit to see the cattle slaughtered, or rather after they were slaughtered, for a sight of the actual deed

would have been fatal to the observer, but after the rough stuff was over, it was a great joy to behold the turning of beef and hog into sausage and pudding, and also the delicacies that the old time butcher was capable of even to faggots, that now seems to be a lost art.

The time spent there was so joyous, father having been ill was persuaded to rest and visit here. He wanted to go home, but the youngster piped in with "mother said you should stay if you were asked," so after being yanked out from the party we started for home.

Mr. Berrett hooked up the horse in the butcher wagon, and we started for Pottsville. It was some years later that we found the little mare conveying the printing equipment of Mr. Zerbey to Pottsville, mired in the mud, and assistance was readily rendered by the same, husky butcher.

Arriving in Pottsville, we went around the town, taking in more breath-taking sights. The old Court House stood on the same hill as now, but it was much more elevated in our mind than at present, both as to height in feet and knowledge exercised in its operation, for we always felt that Hon. Cyrus L. Pershing, then on the bench, was the acme of judicial bearing, though small in stature, powerful in dispensing law and justice.

Out Centre Street we went to the house of David Wakins, another emigrant from either England or Wales, who was wellknown by our friends and family.

Impressive School Building

On the way out we passed the Grammar School Building that had been built during the Civil War.

That was the most impressive thing thus far seen. It was awe-inspiring, but knowledge to the writer was not gained behind brick walls, it just came as experience and later travel.

Levi Hummel was a carpenter, or cabinet maker and he drifted into home making industry, and as it has grown with the generations, what he started then is now the marvel of the section.

Coming down the street Ulmer's was in its fast growing years, with Jacob Ulmer at the helm; Meyer Strouse dispensing watches and musical instruments. The Ohnmachts and Jungkurth's were all in prominent positions, Green's had been the leading jewelers for some years past, and a clock purchased there, an eight day winder, has never been off the walls to this day for repairs, while the plateware of the home is still there.

Greenwald, Krotosky, Rubinsky, the Russels, Ryans, Bechtel's, Reilplumber, Yuengling holding much ly's, Foster's, Focht's, Smith the prominence, Dengler's as bankers, Carpenters and Halberstadt's, in fact, if time and space would permit, it would be possible to publish a book of many hundreds of pages to give prominence to those families that still hold forth in our midst.

One family became quite prominent in other cities. Jesse S. Hawley was a civil and mining engineer who occupied an office in the old "Republican" building before the present steel structure was erected. He was termed a surveyor for the P. & R. C. & I. Co. after its reorganization under President Gowen. In the old attic of the "Republican" building before it was razed prior to building, were found many old books of Mr. Hawley.

The Toussaint family reside in the same location now as they did in the olden days, the family having been in business for many years, finally one son, Louis, became a Florida fruit grower and real estate man, and Frank going to New York as one of the Pennsy Railroad men of prominence in the 33d Street office, another son, J. Albert having been employed as foreman at the "Republican" office for many years as noted elsewhere in this issue. The family have resided for nearly a century at 213 West Market St.

The Pennsylvania Diamond Drill Co. on South Centre St., started out here in the John Crosland property. The latter owned quite a large number of properties and it was an oft recurrent fact to see that Mr. Crosland, in repairing roofs, had fallen off, yet he lived to a good old age. This Drill Co. went to Birdsboro and became the great cannon building concern before the Spanish American War, it being rather a blow to Pottsville to find such a splendid industry going out of its midst.

Likewise the Scranton School of Correspondence, started in Pottsville, at the corner of Second and Norwegian, in the property recently torn down by the First Presbyterian Church to be turned into a grass plot.

The Filbert's, Boyer's, Bowen's, Boltz's, Glover's, Haeseler's, Knecht's, Kopp's, Kennedy's, Dr. W. H. Robinson, Schertle's, Kopitsch's, where Miners' Soap was the standard of efficiency in removing grime though it contained enough rosin to wreck any tender skin, but it was widely used, together with candles made in this place, corner Third and Race Streets.

Corner Gas Lights

The town was lighted by gas piped through fancy iron posts on the various corners, with an attendant going about each morning with cotton waste in hand, and a ladder over the shoulder, going from lamp post to lamp post, placing his ladder, opening the glass door, mopping off the glass, cleaning the tip and thus preparing for the night man to come along, strike a match, light the gas, and proceed to the next until his tour was completed.

If one happened to live beyond the rays of these corner gas lights it was just too bad, you would then be carefully groping about in the darkness when the stars were absent. On moonlight nights there was no sense in lighting the gas, why waste gas, so the moonlight was the only illumination, and the thought is ever present that perhaps we were happier then than with electric lights flashing from most every corner and spreading its rays to far distant corners. The Pottsville Gas Co. was then conducted from the office 151 Centre St., which must have been not far from the present location, but for many, many years it was on the corner of Second and Market Sts. the building torn down for the erection of the Y. M. C. A.

That recalls the fact that in the old American House, corner South Centre and Union, the writer was present when the meetings were held for the creation of a local Y. M. C. A. He was playing the organ, with John Smith, of George St., as violinist, Ed. Lanyon, as flutist, Horace Smith some other instrument, forming a quartette that did get in an occasional note of worth, the Y. M. C. A.-ers sang as lustily as they have ever sung, with G. A. Berner (Dolph to us) taking a leading role as leader of singing.

At the time of the first visit to Pottsville, the present site of the Penna. R. R. freight station was the Sparks & Parker boiler works, and up Norwegian St. at George the Derr Foundry, later the Pottsville Foundry, under the management of John M. McFarland made the much used cannon stoves that are still in existence, and the company are asked for new grates right along, which shows that Pottsville lost another good opportunity to keep a good thing when they had it, for they stopped making these stoves before the present aggressive manufacturer came on the scene.

Originally this article was started with the idea of telling what Pottsville was like when it was visited many years ago, but thoughts will

intrude and one thing after another came up which made some comment necessary, making this a topic that could go along indefinitely, for Pottsville has had a wonderful history, its only regret being that most of the capital made here has gone to build up other cities that might well have been left at home, to the advantage and benefit of the present residents.

Back home to Frackville the writer went and remained there for some years, and after the passing away of the head of the home, it was necessary to work somewhere, and Pottsville had been chosen with the result that he has been here ever since, and the most enjoyable relations resulted between the lamented Editor Joseph Henry Zerbey and the scribe.



Trailing The "Republican" To Pronounced Success.

(By E. L. Clifford)

BACK IN 1884 the writer was a boy enroute to visit friends at Minersville, with his father, who was ill, and trying to regain health by idling about for a few weeks.

When we reached a point one mile south of Minersville we came across a spirited little mare with a heavy cargo of printing material loaded on a wagon. The little animal was holding its own sturdily when another driver of a horse hitched to a buggy, forced the aforementioned animal into the soggy gutter where the wheels became mired. The driver, George Wynkoop, who recently passed away, and who resided on North Second St., was the possessor of a vocabulary that fairly spit forth blue flames, and he used it to what he thought good advantage for the benefit of the pride of his heart—the little mare. We were riding in a butcher wagon.

The owner of that mare and the owner of the printing equipment would not sanction the bitter words emitted, for he was opposed to the use of profanity intelligently or otherwise, and never used it during his entire lifetime—it was Joseph Henry Zerbey, deceased editor and proprietor of the "Pottsville Republican" and "Morning Paper," and that equipment was the foundation of the present big J. H. Zerbey Newspapers Inc.

The boy who was enroute to Minersville on a visit, a few years

later found himself working in Pottsville, and one day Mr. Zerbey called upon the late C. A. Wildermuth to ask if he had a likely boy to learn the printing business. He referred the editor to the writer who dropped his employment and went back to work for \$2.00 a week, the apprentice salary at that time in a printing office.

And here's where he became part of the "Republican" force.

During the years following, never was a harsh word spoken between the editor and proprietor and the writer, and the latter therefore feels he is the one best fitted to say something about the early days of the "Republican," hence the following:

It was a terrible struggle to build up a paper, James G. Blaine was a Republican candidate for the president, and Editor Zerbey espoused his cause, the other papers of the town were lukewarm in their support.

The Infant

"The Daily Republican," an exact copy of that little 11x14 per page daily publication, shown elsewhere in this issue, was printed on an old fashioned press, using a hot air engine for power that tried the patience of the soul of any saint, for just when it was wanted the cussed thing refused to make power. It was necessary to fill the mau of the firebox, shut it up, let the burning fuel collect into a hot air receptacle, then start off the

flywheel and thus generate power to run the press, the flywheel being connected with a drive shaft, then to a pulley on the press.

If this burning fuel closed up into the engine by means of a heavy door clamped with heavy screws that prevented an explosion, failed to get up the heat required, it was necessary to get a gang of men to pull on the flywheel until it decided to start and run of its own volition.

After many heartaches from the stubborn iron brute, the hot air engine was scrapped and a nice little Bannan steam engine, with a boiler sufficiently large to produce enough steam, installed, which during warm weather became a joy forever, for the average fireman could keep enough steam to run the press without difficulty, the only fly in the ointment being it was necessary to pack the valves, which always seemed necessary just when the edition was ready for press, and the engine was so hot that burned fingers and hands were frequent.

Instead of the old press, a Cottrell press, size 28x44 was installed. Ah, that was better! Now for a real paper!

All type was set by hand—minion for leading articles, nonpareil for lesser articles, and this small type was set up each day, and distributed before the men could start for the next day's work. This was done on the second floor, and the forms were made up on this floor, then dropped to the basement by an elevator which was handled with a rope, block and tackle. Until that form reached the press room, scarcely a breath was expelled.

Upon arrival in the basement, the pressman, Mr. Bailey, took the form out, and with the help of an

assistant placed it on the flat bed Cottrell. The arrival of the second form was the signal for printing the paper, with human hands to feed the sheets into the grippers of the press.

Clank, clank, rolled the press backward, forward, and the copies were cut in half before they entered the "fly" and thus two copies resulted after the sheets had been picked up and put back on the feed board to be fed the second time into the grippers. Fresh from the board came the copies, and then on their way to the delivery boys in the towns and surroundings.

So the boy that saw the printing equipment mired a year previously, was now a "devil" among that equipment, and has remained among it from that day to the present, and what a whale of a product has been handled in that time.

It is a coincident that the maker of the little steam engine mentioned above was the grandfather to the present wife of the publisher, J. H. Zerbey, Jr., of the "Republican" and "Morning Paper."

Well, that's getting away from the topic in hand, so back again to the next step in the advancement of these publications.

This engine and press did valiant service until the circulation jumped so heavily that a Double Cylinder Press was installed the two cylinders being in the center, with feed boards from front and rear, in which the paper was fed into the grippers the product coming out at both ends, a larger steam engine and boiler being required to produce power.

Early Linotype Owners

A few years sped 'round when a Campbell Perfecting Press was necessary to handle the rapidly grow-

ing circulation and demand for advertising space, the linotype making its appearance and the clamor that all printers would be dispensed with arose, causing printers to wonder when it would be necessary to go out with a pick and shovel perhaps to the mines, but, strange as it may seem, the greater ease in piling up reading matter brought demand for more reading matter, and thus greater number of pages were used and more men employed than ever before.

The "Republican" was one of the first papers to install linotype machines in its establishment, this marvel of printing being so little known that larger cities hesitated to invest in this style of equipment.

In a short time it was seen that more linotypes were in demand, and a larger press was required, so a 24 page Goss Perfecting Press was placed in the press room, and thus it was possible to print and circulate thousands of copies where hundreds were used before. Agents were found in all the towns and villages of the county and readers were demanding ten thousand copies daily.

Building New Home

The old two story building was now too small for the requirements, when Mr. Zerbey decided to build a new home for the fast growing "Republican", and in 1896 this was done.

In looking around he decided to rent the old Bannan Machine Shop, corner Railroad and Howard Ave., and into that we placed the printing machinery, linotypes, and stock for job printing. It was all right in the summer time, but when wintry blasts tore 'round the corner it made us wonder how the heck we would warm up enough to print a newspaper.

However, winter ends some time,

and it did this year when the new "Republican" modern home was completed and we moved back with renewed courage and increasing business where the Goss Perfecting Press rolled out its papers with daily regularity, and circulation kept soaring, giving the organization cause for much rejoicing.

Spanish American War

The Spanish American War found the "Republican" in the thick of the news-gathering fray, and every move of the enemy was followed by specially chartered boats by the Associated Press which supplied our readers with news right from the theatre of battle, our wires day and night recorded every event of the war, and our boys at the front or in southern camps were kept closely in touch with conditions at home, thus cementing the friendships of soldier and family, and our publication was always a welcome visitor to the camp.

Steadily the newly acquired equipment and printing presses were making it possible to publish larger papers, and many more daily adding to its circulation list.

One specially outstanding event was that of the shooting and finally passing away of the lamented McKinley. As the pulse-beats lessened and the hours slowly dragged along, it is impossible to describe the feeling of those who surrounded the telegraph ticker far into the night awaiting the final signal that McKinley had passed away, and the phone calls were almost too numerous to give attention, but we did our best and the public never forgot it.

The World War

Years passed on and one day the shot was fired at Sarajevo that resounded around the world. The

Great World War was on, and the "Republican" stood in the thickest of the news line furnishing that which brought joy or sorrow to many homes, for our boys were in it, and no expense was too great to bring authentic news. Who can ever forget the news sent out from the "Republican" bulletin board day and night telling of the advance of the enemy until it was well nigh thought the lost territory could never be regained, and as the Germans trod over Belgium and France, it seemed until the U. S. entered the fight, all was lost. And then our boys went to the front.

Thirteen thousand from Schuylkill County went forward, and the "Republican" covered the assembly by publishing every name possible to procure, giving the homes of our county the best service that newspaperdom could produce. All over the world our boys were serving, and the day we received the news that Companies "C" and "D", 103d Engineers were facing the guns of the enemy, and the consequent fatality list sent in by our Associated Press wire, we were swamped with phone calls, but the end of the struggle found us standing high in the county as a purveyor of news. We had earned the greatest respect of parent and children by giving absolutely correct news. The same thing occurred when Co. "H" boys from the 112th Regiment were thrown into the breach, and following fatality list that showed our boys had paid the bitter price of death or maiming of their bodies.

"Morning Paper" Launched

In 1922 the babe—the "Pottsville Morning Paper" was born. It was possible for the J. H. Zerbey Newspapers to thus care for news every hour of the 24 in the day, and any hour, day or night, the force were operating on a large scale.

It was quite natural, therefore, for something big being done when President Harding was taken ill after a visit to Alaska. One night at 10:30, after a hard day's work, the phone rang in the home of the writer. He hesitated answering it, hoping the operator had rung up the wrong number. The second ring brought the writer to his feet. It was the "Morning Paper" force telling us that "President Harding had died at San Francisco."

Believe it or not, firemen had nothing on the speed of the hearer, for he had clothed and tied himself in nothing flat; down to the office he came, with other higher ups of the force. Work was rushed onto the linotypes, the writer then calling J. P. Jones, trustee of the Episcopal Church asking him if we could use the chimes. He readily agreed. Off we went for a bell-ringer. Both were out of the city. The janitor did his best to get another, but failed, finally he was asked, "Can you ring those chimes?" and he replied, "Nau, I can't ring 'em", and then "Where are those chimes?" so up we climbed to the belfry and rang the chimes for President Harding.

Just then it seemed but a minute, the assistant rector of the church, Rev. Guion, standing at the foot of the ladder, said, "What in the world is the matter," and when we said, "Get a bell-ringer at once, President Harding died," we never before or since saw this eminent gentleman display such speed and soon we had a competent bell-ringer.

In the meantime, the office force were rushing forward a "Special Edition" and at midnight after the public were aroused by the ringing of Trinity chimes, the "Special" was on the street conveying the news.

Twin Presses Installed

Up to this time the Old Goss Press was working steadily but wheezing rather badly, having been put to the strain day and night, and it was certain that some relief was necessary, hence it was that on May 1, 1925, the contract was signed for a handsome pair of Twinned Duplex Presses, built right on the floor of the Battle Creek, Mich., world-famous machine shop, to our especial order, fitted out in the last word of printing press efficiency, even up to printing in several colors at one time, which is being used very effectively up to this moment.

We could print 32 pages without changing either press, and run them at the rate of thirty-thousand copies per hour, and that is what they are doing when necessary, and giving the public one of the finest newspapers in the world, with last minute despatches over the exclusive quintuple wires that enter the office, with news from every quarter of the globe, assembled by the Associated Press, together with a splendid news-gathering organization in the state, county, city and every village in this section of the state, with the result that the "Republican" - "Morning Paper" organization have stood the demands of modern times to the last degree, even when the wires were broken down last winter from the

intense weight of ice upon them, after four lines had gone down, our fifth line of entry held good, with the result that when many other establishments were frantically trying to get out a newspaper, the "Republican" went to press early, getting its product into the hands of its readers whether bus lines or trolley lines or railroad trains were running or not, for our own delivery system is such that we do not depend upon others to distribute our papers; we are a complete organization of many units that gather, print and deliver whether others do or not.

This vast press equipment, an outlay of one hundred thousand dollars, is capable of printing sections of advertising or news in colors, and one of the latest achievements was the printing of the new "NRA" banner in a red broad border, with the famous Blue Eagle in blue, while the remainder of the page was black, an accomplishment that few imitate, this being an original undertaking with the "Republican" force. Never has a similar paper sent into our clipping bureau had an "NRA" of this description.

J. H. Zerbey, Jr., the new publisher of these publications takes great interest in color printing, so the reader might expect most anything in that line, and the equipment is here, ready for use.

Local News Of 1884 Brought Up To Date

The perusal of the first "Daily Republican" brought up the thought of the changes that have transpired. For this purpose, we have attempted to bring the local news items up to date, showing some of the changes which have come about in customs, in families, or in business places within the past fifty years.

The original item is given first and the comment underneath.

Mrs. J. Hamilton Seitzinger is quite ill.

Mrs. Seitzinger, prior to her marriage, was Miss Catherine Hoffman, her antecedents having lived at Gordon and Frackville. She was a native of Fountain Springs. She recovered from the illness reported above, and died many years afterward, in 1928, at the age of 78. Her husband was associated with the land department of the P. & R. C. & I. Co., being located for a time in the Ashland district. The closing years of his life, his death having occurred in 1911, were spent in Pottsville, establishing his home at the Schuylkill County Seat, about a score of years prior to that date.

There survive Mrs. Seitzinger, today, one daughter, Elsie, who is the wife of William Hermann, Centre St. druggist; and one son, William A. Seitzinger, of Mt. Carmel, who, like his father, is also employed by the P. & R. C. & I. Co.

Lewis King does a big trade in fine groceries.

Up to thirty-five years ago, Lewis King was widely known especially in

church circles. His place of business was a small storeroom, on the south side of Market, just west of Centre Street. He conducted his store, where, later, B. F. Geist had his jewelry stand.

Particularly prominent was Mr. King in the activities of the Methodist congregation when it worshipped in the original church on Second St., razed to clear part of the site now occupied by the Y. M. C. A. building. He was an exhorter and assistant superintendent of the Sunday School. Mr. King retired on account of ill health. He died at the home of his brother at Wiconisco.

The school teachers were paid on Saturday for the month.

This was during the period long before the semi-monthly paying legislative enactment. The teachers, in Pottsville, today, are paid twice every month viz.: on the 5th and 20th.

In those primitive days of public instruction, in Schuylkill County, school teachers drew salaries as low as \$25 per month. These conditions were changed, years later, when Senator Charles A. Snyder introduced, in the Legislature, a minimum salary act which made it imperative that all teachers should receive not less than \$40 per month.

In still later times, there was the certificate ruling, by the State Bureau of Public Instruction, that the lowest certificate salary paid was \$75 per month. This was in 1927. Since then there have been additional certificate rulings for payment of \$85 and \$100 respectively.

The Republicans should make a good turnout for St. Clair to-night.

We suppose the prediction came true, for the Republicans have been making a good showing there ever since.

Prof. Freeman, principal of the Shenandoah schools, spent Saturday in town.

This refers to Prof. L. A. Freeman, who was a former principal of the Shenandoah High School. He was principal until June, 1884, and then was superintendent of the public schools for nine years. After leaving Shenandoah, he lived for some time at Edgewood, Providence, R. I., but since then Shenandoah folk have lost touch with him and do not know whether or not he is still alive.

Last night was chalk night—doors, windows and houses defaced in spite of rain.

Chalk night was, until recent years, a part of the Hallowe'en celebration, with youngsters defacing property with chalk. It was largely with the idea of breaking up this kind of practices that communities hit upon Hallowe'en parades to occupy the attention of the youngsters.

Guy Reinhart is laying a cement floor in the H. S. Albright & Co.'s shoe factory in Orwigsburg.

The H. S. Albright Shoe Company building is occupied by the Levin & Harris Shirt Company. The Albright Shoe Firm discontinued business a number of years. Geo. C. Diefenderfer, one of the partners lives on E. Market St., a few doors from the factory building.

Orwigsburg talks of starting a bank, if the business men of the

lower end will join in the enterprise.

The first bank in Orwigsburg was chartered in 1890, in a building on the corner of Wayne and Market Sts.; later it was moved to the site of the present American Legion Home on the Square and several years ago the beautiful modern bank building was built on the main street of the town.

George Garrett, cashier of the bank from its early history recently retired from active duty. Harold Shoen-er is the present cashier.

Patrick Kerns, formerly of this city, now a resident of Wilmington, Delaware, is visiting friends in Pottsville.

As one of the pioneer business men, in his line, Mr. Kerns, for years, conducted a tinware store on Centre St. It was located next to the bakery of Herman Loechel, on the east side of the main business thoroughfare, just north of Market Street. In later years this stand was occupied by the much larger tinware, hardware and stove store of Wilhelm & Kennedy.

Mr. Stephens, of Port Carbon, has the contract for constructing the new house for the Good Will Hose.

Evidently, in publishing the same, there occurred a typographical error in the spelling. It was Asher Bailey Stevens, of Port Carbon, who built the first home for the Good Will Hose Company, in Jalappa, before the present more pretentious structure, corner of Nichols and Coal Sts., was erected. He also constructed the building, on East Norwegian Street, just beyond the P. R. R. tracks, where the Phoenix Hook & Ladder Company is housed.

In erecting these buildings, O. D. Stevens, of 1235 West Norwegian St., this city, who has been engaged in the ice business for 57 years, as-

assisted his father. The latter, who was active in the Methodist Church, at Port Carbon, and was a member of the Official Board, conducted a brick yard, which he opened, in that town, in 1856, in addition to following the trade of a contractor also being a prominent contractor. He was a native of a little town near Milton.

The elder Stevens' death occurred 29 years ago. In addition to his son, there survive two daughters, Misses Hannah and Eliza Stevens, of Third and Market Sts., Pottsville.

Chas. W. Barker, the broker, is making extensive improvements to his handsome residence on Mahantongo St.

It is a coincidence that Mr. Barker's daughter, Dr. Mary Kingsbury, is at the present time interested in making extensive improvements to a home which she purchased some time ago in Yorkville and she has remodeled the home into a very beautiful residence. Both her mother and father are dead, her mother having lived until but a few years ago.

R. C. Luther, chief mining engineer, C. & I. Co. visited Bear Valley colliery on Monday which is on fire.

Mr. Luther later became superintendent of the Phila. and Reading Coal and Iron Co. and continued in that capacity until succeeded by W. J. Richards. He was the father of E. C. Luther of Pottsville, mining engineer.

Mrs. Will Atkins and daughter are expected home, this week, from Atlantic City, whither they had gone, by the advice of the family physician, to recuperate the child's health.

Prior to her marriage, Mrs. Will Atkins was Miss Hattie Baber, daughter of Charles Baber. She was

a sister of William D. Baber, of this city, for a number of years, president of the Pottsville Water Company, also Episcopal Church Vestryman, and of Mrs. J. A. Beck, of Philadelphia. Mr. Atkins was a son of Chas. M. Atkins, who with his brother, Hanson Atkins, founded the rolling mill industry, at Fishbach. In later years, Will Atkins was president of the Pottsville Iron & Steel Company.

The reporter of 50 years ago was just as prone to make mistakes as we are in the present day for the item was in error as to Mrs. Atkins being accompanied to the seashore by a daughter. No daughters were born to Mr. and Mrs. Will Atkins but they had two sons, Charles, who died, when he was four years old, and William Atkins, for some years a resident of New York City.

Daniel R. Miller, the Pinegrove coal operator, found time on Saturday to leave home to come here and give the Republican County Chairman some wholesome advice.

The coal operation mentioned in the article was the Lincoln colliery of which Mr. Miller was an executive. This place has been closed in recent years.

Mrs. Levi Miller of Pinegrove, is a near relative of the Daniel Miller coal operator of fifty years ago.

The Democratic clubs of town went to Tremont last night headed by the Third Brigade Band via the People's Railway.

Now they go by auto. We still have the Third Brigade Band but the People's Railway is largely a memory. They still have a few Democrats left in Tremont. One of them happens to be the county chairman, Ralph M. Bashore, who followed the footsteps of his father, Robert S. Bashore, one of the old time Democratic wheel-horses.

The Sportsmen's Association are having successful hunting trips to the preserves they stocked several years ago in Wayne Township.

The Sportsmen's Club is still functioning but is now known as the Fish and Game Association and has taken on new life within the past few years.

The smallest man on the Pottsville engineer corps ate 150 oysters the other night and it wasn't a very good night for oysters at that.

The story does not say whether he became the biggest man as a result. In these days they usually go in and ask for a half dozen on the half shell and call it a meal.

Three electric lights will shed lustre on the skating rink. One will light the people to the place and two will light up the interior. Harry Seyfert is putting the outer one in position this afternoon.

This was the popular Dempsey roller skating rink, which was located on the east side of South Centre Street, about opposite the bluff upon which the Henry Clay Monument stands. A gasoline station now occupies part of its site. In this building there were some exciting racing contests. It was at the Dempsey rink that Robert E. (Ross) Lee, a Pottsville youth, who, in later years, served two terms as Democratic Congressman, representing Schuylkill County, won many a championship in races against all-comers.

The gentlemen who wore silk hats in Monday nights' parade were not at all particular as to the style. Some of them were models of antiquity.

A gentleman of fifty years ago was not considered properly dressed for any special function unless he wore

his high silk hat. For lodge ceremonies, funerals and parades they were always to be found. Now about the only time one sees a silk hat in Pottsville is in a Hallowe'en or political parade.

The Masons held their regular monthly meeting tonight. It is said to be the duty of every good member of the fraternity to observe these occasions.

The Masons for many years had their rooms above the old Penna. Bank, which also succumbed to that famous Christmas week fire. Later they erected their own building at Second and Norwegian Sts., store rooms, office rooms and floors for their own lodge activities.

Mr. Zimmerman, an Orwigsburg painter, was severely hurt on Monday by falling from a scaffold at Thos. F. Kern's new barn, in course of erection at that place.

The late John Zimmerman was a painter in Orwigsburg for many years and painted many of the houses in the town. The Thos. Kern home on the highway is now occupied by the Gensinger family.

Among Mr. Zimmerman's descendants are Ralph Zimmerman, a postal clerk in the Orwigsburg post office. Clayton Zimmerman, well known painter, and Mrs. Harper Daniels of Orwigsburg, and Mrs. Jack Kramer,

George Fishburn, a miner, was instantly killed on Monday morning by a fall of coal at Packer No. 4. Deceased resided at Shenandoah and leaves a wife and several children.

Mr. Fishburn's wife died some years later and his children left Shenandoah many years ago, although a nephew, John Fishburn, lives in Shenandoah at the present time and is one

of the oldest members of the Columbia Hose Co.

The great lamp recently erected in front of the Mountain City building did not burn late last night. It is surmised that the Gas. Co. was badly taken in on the capacity of the lamp.

That lamp for many years remained as a landmark at that corner, now occupied by the Safe Deposit Bank long after it ceased to be used for illuminating purposes. The story of the Centre St. lamp lighters is an old one but not too old for the columns of the early "Republican" days.

A Palo Alto saloonkeeper has wagered \$500 with a Mechanicsville capitalist that New York will give Cleveland a larger majority than Penna. will give Blaine. What a snap for the Mechanicsville man.

That was one of the hectic early presidential battles when torch light parades were held almost nightly. Needless to say it was a victory for Cleveland.

The commission of the postmistress of Minersville expires in December. The office is a presidential appointment and worth \$1,200 and \$200 for clerk. The present official, Mrs. Higley, will undoubtedly be reappointed.

This refers to Mrs. M. B. Higley, who was reappointed Postmistress on Feb. 12, 1885. She served for many years and her daughter, Emily B. Higley was clerk at the postoffice also.

The Keystone Club brought out a banner the other evening upon which was inscribed, "We Know Them", "We Can't Trust Them", "Reilly and McCool." It was an enigma that even Rol. Whitfield

couldn't solve, and he asked for information.

This was probably Ben McCool's candidacy for sheriff and James B. Reilly for congress. Voters evidently did trust them because they were both honored by the voters on several occasions.

Pat Rooney's combination held the boards at the Academy Saturday evening and was greeted by the average Saturday night crowd. The performance being a laughable one, no person failed to pay levy.

The Old Academy was located in Union Hall opposite the "Republican" office where it has been succeeded by the Excelsior Parking Station, operated by Uzal Martz. The lot was never rebuilt after Union Hall and the Academy were burned down in the great Christmas week Centre St. fire. It was one of the leading show houses in this part of the state.

The wife of J. Z. Over, editor of the Fulton County Republican, is dead. The deceased was the daughter of Rev. J. B. Anthony formerly stationed about here.

Some of the oldest residents of Pottsville and contiguous towns, among them several octogenarians, have nothing beyond a hazy idea as to Rev. Anthony's identity. Apparently he was of the Lutheran denomination and may have served in a circuit, embracing several towns, for there is belief that he was the spiritual advisor of a little flock gathered at Port Carbon which dates back almost to the origin of the town. Then, too, there is slight intimation that a Rev. Anthony was a pastor, at Schuylkill Haven, soon after that town was founded.

If Congressman Brumm is re-elected, and of this there is no doubt, he will put forth utmost

efforts to have two of our present letter carriers mounted that the suburbs can be better supplied with the mails.

Congressman Brumm was elected and re-elected. This was Charles N. Brumm, father of the present Congressman G. Frank Brumm.

The new electric light, in front of Green's jewelry store, is a beauty and certainly excels the others in use. It was put up by Electrician Harry Seyfert, of the Light Company, that the Third Brigade Band's presents might be shown off the more advantageously.

Seyfert, an employee of the Anthracite Electric Light Company, the first to operate in Pottsville, and this region, was well liked and, in those primitive days of the knowledge of electricity, was regarded as an expert. The Anthracite corporation, comprising, for the most part, local investors, sprang into existence among the first plants chartered, after the first Edison incandescent lamps were successfully experimented with at Mahanoy Plane.

The light referred to was a primitive arc on an incandescent circuit. The use ascribed to it was to shed its rays into the jewelry window where some of the prizes were on exhibition to be later drawn at the fair of the musical organization, The enterprise was held, for two weeks, in Armory Hall, part of the Academy of Music building, fronting on Mahantongo between Centre and Second Sts.

It is positively asserted by a Democrat, one of them, that thirty-five out of the sixty members of one of the Democratic clubs that paraded here on Friday evening, will vote for Brumm, and further that Keefer and Thomas will get the votes of twenty of them.

We do not know how the count was, but Brumm always had a strong following among the Democrats because of his active advocacy of the interests of his home district.

Many people who are closely confined to office and shop work, during the week, took advantage of the lovely autumn day, Sunday, to pay a visit to the outlying cities of the dead. The falling leaves, in their many hued beauty, have carpeted the cemeteries with golden tapestry which is beautiful to behold.

The custom of spending much time in the cemeteries to gather autumn leaves also making them frequent visiting places, as characteristic of the spring and summer seasons, is not so much followed now. Since the days of the popularity of the automobile, autumn is regarded as the ideal part of the year for motor-ing. Fifty years ago the automobile was unknown.

Charley Miesse has succeeded in getting a New York coal agent interested in his Newtown colliery who will invest \$50,000 and make it a big operation. Mr. Miesse will be superintendent and Mr. Morgan, the boss miner, both being partners as well. Success to Miesse & Co.

It was on the east side of Centre Street, in the vicinity of the former Schramm business property, that Charles Miesse was born. In addition to his coal interests he conducted a confectionery store on Centre Street, between Norwegian and Market Streets. He was prominent as a member of the Evangelical Church, on West Arch Street, the congregation, which then worshipped, there, being termed "Dutch Methodists". One of Mr. Miesse's sisters, Miss Carrie Miesse, was a primary teacher, in the public schools, for many years.

A younger sister, Irene, was prominent as a soprano soloist of the Evangelical Church choir later going on the stage.

Cards are out for the wedding of Mr. George F. Roehrig, druggist, and Miss Hattie E., daughter of Mr. R. C. Bruce, the Market Street merchant. The ceremony will take place in the M. E. Church on Nov. 25th. Mr. Roehrig is the son of Chas. Roehrig, the well known shoe dealer. They will reside in New York.

Mr. Roehrig, in later years, was graduated as a physician, and built up a good private practice. Then he moved to Denver, Colorado, where he served, for years, as medical examiner for the C. B. & Q. Railroad. He died in 1917.

Mrs. Roehrig, his widow, is still a resident of Denver, she is a daughter of one of Pottsville's early grocers who was in business at the site of the De Court Hotel, in the building, corner of Third and Laurel Sts., formerly occupied, as a grocery stand, by Ephraim Phillips. Later he conducted a grocery store at 12th and Norwegian Sts. Mr. Bruce was an active member and exhorter of the Methodist Church.

Dr. Roehrig is survived, in addition to his wife, by two sons, Dr. Karl Roehrig, a Denver physician, and George Roehrig, Jr., holding a professorship at Lafayette College, Easton; and one daughter, Grace, wife of Homer Pack, of San Francisco.

Hon. Luther R. Keefer and John I. Matthias spent last night in Pottsville. Both are confident of success at the coming election.

Mr. Keefer of Cressona was prominent in Republican county politics for many years, and was interested in the Diston Cornet plant, which

chiefly through his efforts was located at Cressona. It was later removed to Williamsport where the industry is still being conducted. A son, Brua Keefer, went to Williamsport to reside.

John I. Matthias, of Mahanoy City, was also prominent in the county's public affairs for many years, having a wide acquaintanceship and naming his friends by the hundreds. He gained his influence while he was engaged in the book-selling business for a prominent corporation. In Republican politics, he too, was a power.

W. S. Graham is busy moving his stock to the handsome new store room above Centennial Hall.

Blustering, genial "Bill" Graham was one of the best "mixers", among the business men of this community, of his time, and it was through his efforts that the Pottsville Central Republican Club was organized back in 1884. He held various offices in the organization among them that of trustee through all the years that he was identified with the club. City Clerk G. A. Berner was the organization's first secretary, who served contemporaneously, with Mr. Graham.

Graham's store, remarkably complete and well stocked with china-ware, bric-a-brac and fancy household merchandise, was first located near the corner of Centre and Market Streets. Then it occupied the old Reiger property, and then, the Sam Morris premises, on the east side of Centre Street, near the site of the Capitol Theatre.

The Graham family was an ideal one. The attractive two daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Graham figured prominently, in social circles of Pottsville and, later, in New Jersey, to which state they moved upon closing out their business interests, here.

The City Of Pottsville.

This does not aspire to be a complete history of Pottsville. Much of the history of the town from its early days will be found in separate stories in other pages and volumes of this J. H. Zerbey History. This sketch is to serve the purpose of summarizing the salient facts in the development of the city.

To secure the facts contained in the Pottsville History, it has been necessary to consult many persons as well as many historical volumes, including the publications of the Schuylkill County Historical Society, Geo. W. Chamber's pamphlet on Early Pottsville History, Rupp's History of Schuylkill and Berks County, Miss McCool's History of Schuylkill County, "Schuylkill County in the World War," "The Record of the Penna. Volunteers in the Spanish-American War," Mrs. C. D. Elliott's publications, "The Patriotism of Schuylkill County" by Francis B. Wallace, Munsell's History of Schuylkill County from 1811 to 1881, newspaper files, and many other publications.

Pottsville, the county seat of Schuylkill County, and the center of the southern anthracite coal industry has had over a hundred years to develop into the busy little inland city of the present day.

But, even over a hundred years ago, Pottsville gave a visitor to this community the impression that it was a progressive community, for, from the Gentleman's Pocket Almanack in 1831, published by Thomas T. Ash of Philadelphia, this information is gleaned:

"The feeling produced on visiting Pottsville is that it is no place for trifling, for every one wears a look of importance and is plainly intent on playing his cards so as not to lose a trick; and a strong inclination is felt by the spectator to join in and take a hand....you may see the grave Quaker, the ejaculating

Methodist and the sober Presbyterian sitting at the same table and using all their ingenuity to get the odd trick; but what is more surprising is that they all appear to get good cards and are pleased with the result of the game....No town of its size is so well supplied with every essential of luxury and convenience."

And now for the city of 1935. From those early days when much of the populace was concentrated in the center of the town, we find that Pottsville now is a city divided into seven wards, with the government of the municipality vested in a mayor and four councilmen. During the days when Pottsville was a borough, there was a Chief Burgess, and three Councilmen from each ward, there being 7 wards, the North, North East, North West, South, South East, Middle and the Seventh.

Census Figures

It is interesting to note that the population of Pottsville numbered 3030 in 1835. There were 1519 free white males, 1511 free white females, 39 free colored males, 48 free colored females and 247 unnaturalized foreigners. In 1910, the census showed that there were 20,236 inhabitants; in 1920, 21,876 and in 1930, 24,300.

Pottsville is in the 29th Senatorial District, the 13th Congressional District, the 21st Judicial District and the 4th Legislative District.

The city's population in 1930, by wards, was as follows: First, 2,143; second, 2,568; third, 3,444; fourth, 3,357; fifth, 6,037; sixth, 3,195; seventh, 3,532; total, 24,276. In 1920 the figures were: First ward, 1,898; second, 2,232; third, 3,391; fourth, 3,899; fifth, 5,332; sixth, 2,993; seventh, 2,131; total, 21,876.

This showed an increase, in a decade, of 2,400 or eleven per cent.

The city tax rate is 12½ mills. The taxes, for 1935, were computed on a total property assessment of \$16,604,298. By wards, these figures are: First, \$2,029,035; second, \$2,317,133; third, \$3,415,773; fourth, \$2,153,639; fifth, \$2,029,007; sixth, \$1,267,395; seventh, \$2,514,326; total, \$16,604,298. This is an increase of \$37,152 over the assessment of 1934.

Twenty-five members constitute the police force, the largest personnel in the history of the city. It consists of the following: Fred M. Dewald, Geo. W. Blankenhorn, John Schnerring and Leo S. Deegan, sergeants; Chas. Miller, Walter P. Madara, Jas. Torpey, Jos. Christ, Wm. Reinhard, Anthony J. Downey, Silas H. Collins, Andrew Scheithauer, Fred. Reinhold, LeRoy McGlone, John Hulet, Chas. Heiser, Wm. Witmer, John Tallon, John Connors

and Vincent Haley, patrolmen; Edw. Flanagan, Harry Betz, Geo. Abrams, Geo. Glaser and Earl Gilling, substitutes.

City Government

Pottsville's city government is in the hands of the following: Mayor, Claude A. Lord; and members of Council, viz, John B. Bowman, Director of Finance; Wm. L. Stevenson, Director of Public Safety; Jas. A. Lynaugh, Director of Streets; and Aaron Moore, Director of Parks. Harry K. Portz is the City Controller.

The appointive municipal officers: Solicitor, R. A. Freiler; Clerk, G. A. Berner; Supervisor, David Thomas; Fire Chief, Geo. A. Smith; Health Officer, Alex C. Huntzinger; Dr. H. J. Herbein, secretary of the Board of Health; Dr. Chas. V. Hogan, president of the Board of Health; Miss Jane Halberstadt, secretary to the mayor.

Dr. B. C. Blaine is the deputy coroner, with jurisdiction over the Pottsville District.

Pottsville was incorporated as a borough on Feb. 19, 1828, and the first borough election was held at the home of John Weaver, on May 7, 1828. Francis B. Nichols was elected Chief Burgess; John Pott, assistant burgess; Daniel Hill, high constable; Samuel Rex, clerk; and Jacob Kline, John Strouch, Benj. Thurston, David Phillips and Samuel Brooks, councilmen. The first meeting of the council was held at the home of George Shoemaker, May 9, 1828.

The Chief Burgesses who served Pottsville and the date of election, during the last thirty-two years that Pottsville was under borough form of government, are: Joseph Derr, 1881; Jeremiah Seitzinger, 1882; Joseph Derr, 1883; Mayberry B. Bell, 1884; John Kalbach, 1885; F. J.

Albert, 1886-'89; Wm. S. Ent, 1889; J. G. Frick, 1890; Mayberry B. Bell, 1891; B. Frank Derr, 1892-'93; M. R. Nichols, 1894-'96; M. P. Walker, 1897-'99; Edward Heffner, 1900-'02; Geo. J. Smith, 1903-'05; Edwin S. Stine, 1906-'08; Geo. J. Smith, 1909-'13. The highest salary, that which was paid when the last official served under borough government, was \$600 per year.

The town and city clerks were as follows: Samuel Rex, 1828; Samuel J. Potts, 1829; Robert Woodside, 1830; David Candor, 1831; Wm. F. Dean, 1832; Jacob Eyer, 1833 and 1834; Wm. F. Dean, 1835; Edw. Owen Parry, 1836 to 1841; Francis W. Hughes, 1842; Isaac Beck, 1843 to '45; Samuel Hartz, 1846 and '48; John H. Downing, 1849 to '51; Jas. A. McBarron, 1852 and '53; Samuel Hartz, 1854 to '58; Wm. L. Whitney, 1859, resigned in June and was succeeded by A. R. Whitner who was re-elected seventeen years; Daniel L. Krebs, 1875 to '90; G. A. Berner, 1890 to the present time.

The city charter passed on Nov. 8, 1910, but because of legal difficulties, the city charter was not officially recognized by council until Nov. 18, 1913 and the first city officials were sworn in on Dec. 1, 1913. The detailed account of the movement to adopt a city charter will be found on page 94 of the J. H. Zerbey History. Under city government, the mayor first received a salary of \$1,500 per year. This has been increased to \$1,800.

The area of the city is 3.57 square miles. The length of opened streets is 41.7 miles and of unopened streets, 6.1 miles.

Paved Streets

On Labor Day, Sept. 2, 1935, the last piece of concrete paving, consisting, for the most part, of resurfacing of a former concrete sub-

base, originally laid to carry asphalt paving that wore out, was opened on Market, west from Twelfth street to the end of the city line. Just 9,091.82 lineal feet of surface was covered along part of State Highway, known as Route No. 209. The improvement cost nearly \$110,000 which was furnished, aside from several thousand dollars, by allocation of federal funds. The city's expense was mostly incurred by improvements to four properties, near the western end of the paving, due to a maximum difference of nearly three feet caused by changes in the grade as the paving progressed. The actual cost of the city, toward the paving job proper, was a little less than \$1,500, for laying laterals at street intersections and other incidental work for which federal money could not be used.

It was during the nineties that the initial step from cobblestones, in use on the municipality's streets, was taken. Centre street was first paved with Belgian granite blocks. Metropolitan red bricks on S. Coal, E. Norwegian, Market, from Centre to Fourth, and Norwegian from Centre to Second Streets were next laid. This paving was done by Hillpot & Smith of New Jersey, and by Murdock & Co. of Phila., covering the period of 1907 and 1908.

Edwin Vare, brother of the late Senator Wm. Vare, of Phila., laid creosoted yellow pine wooden blocks on Centre Street and for short distances of intersecting streets in 1910. The Belgian blocks taken up, were used on part of Union, E. Market, Arch, Race and Minersville streets, also in Wynn Alley between Centre and Railroad streets.

The late Louis Miller of Jalappa did red sandstone paving on East Norwegian street, between the railroad station in 1912. In 1922, sheet

asphalt substituted the former paving on West Market, also on Centre street, to the southern city line at Mt. Carbon, Murdock & Co. of Phila., being the contractors.

The Union Paving Co., in 1924, placed sheet asphalt on Norwegian street from Centre to Second streets. In the same year the Pottsville Construction Co. did the first concrete paving on Mauch Chunk, East Norwegian, Nichols, and Second streets. A city loan of \$494,000 was floated to cover these latter improvements and the purchase of 10 feet of the property of the Safe Deposit Bank on the south side of Norwegian between Centre and Second streets, permitting its widening ten feet.

Fire Protection

The city has excellent fire protection, having six fire companies in service. The Humane Hose and Steam Fire Engine Company originated in 1829 as a bucket brigade and was instituted Sept. 4, 1833 as the Humane Hose Co. No. 1. The Phoenix Hook and Ladder Co. was formed in 1830 as the Hydraulian Hose and Fire Engine Co. The Good Intent Fire Co. was organized in 1846. The American Hose Co. was organized on June 30, 1848 as the Rough and Ready Co. which was changed to the American Hose Co. in 1866. The West End Hose Co. was organized on Sept. 7, 1886 and was chartered on May 23, 1887. The Good Will Hose and Engine Co. was chartered in May 1882 and the Yorkville Hose was organized on Oct. 27, 1891. The Atkins Hose Co., which was chartered on Sept. 29, 1873 is no longer in existence.

Seven Wards In City

There are still seven wards and the old boundary lines have been retained, but under the original plan Fishbach was the North Ward

and Jalappa, the Seventh. The Sixth ward now takes in all of Jalappa and Fishbach and the Seventh Ward now includes everything west of the old dividing line of the Yorkville Borough at 16th street.

The First Ward is now everything east of Centre street from Norwegian north to Harrison street. This was formerly the North East Ward. The Second Ward takes in everything east of Centre street, and south of Norwegian. This was the South East Ward.

The Third Ward takes in everything west of Centre street, south of Norwegian to a point near Seventeenth street. This was the South Ward.

The Fourth Ward is everything west of Centre St. between Norwegian and Race Sts., except from the intersection of Centre and Norwegian Sts. west to Second St. This was the Middle Ward.

The Fifth Ward is everything west of Centre St. from the intersection of Centre and Norwegian St., west to Second, then north to Race and west to Sixteenth street and north again to Norway Alley. This was the North West Ward.

The Sixth takes in all of Jalappa and Fishbach. The Seventh now includes everything west of 16th street.

Boundary Lines

According to the geographical survey, furnished by City Engineer Geo. Steidle's office, the east line of the city begins at a point in the vicinity of Mount Carbon, directly east of what was commonly known as the southern end of the Boardwalk, between the east side of the River and the Pennsylvania Railroad tracks. It then extends northwardly, to a point where the Reading Railroad underpasses the Penna. Railroad, thence diagonally across

Pioneer Island back of the Phillips and Jones Factory, to the bank of the river, thence following the river to a point just east of where Mauch Chunk St. joins Anderson St., thence going in a northwardly direction along Anderson St. and just east of it, cutting through the Pottsville Water Co. reservoir to a point in the vicinity of Joyce's Hot House.

The north line then extends west along the north side of Jalappa to a point near the centre of the East line of the Odd Fellows Cemetery, thence north 400 feet and then westwardly along the northern side of the Odd Fellows Cemetery crossing the Centre Turnpike at a point on the dividing line of the I. O. O. F. Cemetery and the Jewish Cemetery, thence continuing westwardly to a point 400 feet west of Eagan St.

The West line then extends southwardly to a point on 16th street, north of Minersville St., and thence southwardly just north of York Farm Patch to a point just southeast on the Reading Railroad to Minersville, thence to a point in the west branch of the Schuylkill River, thence southwardly in the centre and following the course of the river to a point in the vicinity of the road to Indian Run, about a mile south of Market St.

The southern line then goes across the Sharp Mountain to a point in the vicinity of the Italian Cemetery thence continuing eastwardly to Calvary Cemetery, thence south through this cemetery to a point near the north side of Main St., Mt. Carbon thence eastwardly between Cressona Road and Main St., Mt. Carbon to the point of beginning.

Six Banks In The City

Pottsville now has six banks: the Pennsylvania National Bank, which was incorporated in 1866; the Safe

Deposit Bank, located originally on S. Centre St., next to the Episcopal Church and chartered on Feb. 18, 1870; the Miners National Bank, incorporated by an Act of Legislature on Feb. 7, 1828 and opened on Oct. 28, of that year; the Union Bank and Trust Co., previously known as the Union Safe Deposit Bank and established during 1896; the Schuylkill Trust Co., chartered on Oct. 19, 1887, and the City National Bank, formerly the Merchants Bank.

The City National Bank is the youngest institution of the six banks of the city. It occupies the original banking site, at 212 S. Centre St., the property being bought from the late Chas. H. Woltjen in 1907. The bank was formally opened for business in the remodeled building on Dec. 19, 1907. Chas. H. Marshall was the first cashier and Chas. Eberle, the original bookkeeper. N. J. Rich, a stockholder and director, was the first depositor. Wm. E. Harrington, of Scranton, was the first President. He was succeeded by Oliver P. Bechtel, former Judge of the Common Pleas Court. Associated with him was Wm. H. Seltzer, as Vice President and Chas. P. Hoffman, Secretary. Upon the death of Mr. Bechtel, Conrad K. Hock succeeded him. On March 3, 1925, a contract was awarded to Gordon Nagle to remodel the bank building at an expense of \$75,000. For some years, the Y. W. C. A. had its headquarters in the upper stories of the bank building. While the bank was being rebuilt, the former general office building of the P. & R. C. & I. Co., at 21 S. Centre St. was used as the bank quarters.

Nov. 19, 1925, the new building was thrown open to the public for inspection. Business was resumed the next morning. Thos. J. Rank

of Jonestown, Lebanon County, succeeded Mr. Marshall as cashier. During the bank holiday in March of 1933, the bank was closed and reorganization took place. Mr. Rank served as conservator during the readjustment period and the bank after being approved Aug. 8, 1934 was reopened as the City National Bank on Sept. 6, 1934, with \$100,000 preferred stock, \$100,000 common stock and \$50,000 surplus. The Board of Directors is as follows: John C. Lee, Pres.; Frank E. Mellet, Vice-Pres.; C. P. Hoffman, Secy., and Thos. J. Rank, Cashier. Since the death of Mr. Hoffman, no one has yet been elected to fill the vacancy.

The early banks are considered in other articles, with the exception of the German Banking Co., which was chartered in 1862, with a capital stock of \$100,000 and went into operation on March 4, 1862 with Francis Altstatt as President, and Jas. W. Nagle as Secretary. It was located in Lyceum Hall on W. Market St.

Six B. & L. Associations

There are now six Building and Loan Associations. They include the following:

The Central Building Association, which was incorporated on Dec. 27, 1883. The officers at present are: President, Wm. J. Felsburg; Vice-Pres., Edw. T. Yost; Treas., Louis Eberle; Secy., Fred A. Lennig; Solicitor, M. F. Duffy. The directors are: M. F. Duffy, Edgar Downey, Louis Eberle, Wm. Felsburg, Minersville, Robert G. Haertter, Andrew S. Kimmel, D. H. Lewis, Fred A. Lennig, Chas. G. Niece, John G. Reid, C. Benj. Tyson, and Edw. T. Yost.

The Pottsville Building and Loan Association No. 2 was incorporated on Jan. 23, 1886 with Nicholas Dennebaum as President. The pres-

ent officers are: President, E. M. Burgan; Vice-Pres., J. W. Fleet; Treas., Laurence F. Elison; Secy., Lillian Anwyl. Directors are: J. W. Fleet, E. M. Burgan, John Kerschner, Wm. Womer, E. L. Clifford, C. F. Muehlhof, W. S. Pugh, G. T. Burd, and Lillian Anwyl.

The New City Building and Loan Association was incorporated on Jan. 12, 1907 with Jacob Schoen, President and W. C. Wilson, Secretary. The present officers are: President, Jacob B. Schoen; Vice-Pres., W. E. Lecher; Treas., Geo. A. Mootz; Secy., W. C. Wilson. The directors are: Jacob B. Schoen, W. E. Lecher, Geo. A. Mootz, W. C. Wilson, R. L. Jones, A. J. Pilgram, G. A. Sitler and Ralph W. Dietrich. A. J. Pilgram is the solicitor.

The Greater Pottsville Building and Loan Association was incorporated on April 2, 1914, the letters patent being received from Governor Tener. The stockholders of the company were: E. L. Clifford, G. T. Burd, J. H. Zerbey, J. H. Zerbey, Jr., J. W. Conrad, J. L. Stauffer, F. H. Bausum, Gustav A. Rees, R. L. Jones, Chas. Haussmann, C. E. Hess, Wm. Buechley, Jr. The original officers were: President, E. L. Clifford; Vice-Pres., G. T. Burd; Secy., J. H. Zerbey, Jr.; Treas., J. W. Conrad; Solicitor, John L. Stauffer.

The present officers are: Pres., E. L. Clifford; Vice-Pres., J. H. Zerbey, Jr.; Treas., G. T. Burd; Secy., R. L. Jones. The directors are: E. L. Clifford, J. H. Zerbey, Jr., G. T. Burd, R. L. Jones, G. A. Rees, H. C. Hoffman and C. E. Alter.

The Schuylkill County Building and Loan Association was incorporated on Dec. 21, 1921 with J. A. McFarland, Pres. and Ray B. Serfass, Secy. The present officers are: Pres., Geo. H. Steidle; 1st Vice Pres., John J. Miller, Port Carbon; 2nd Vice Pres., Clarence E. Wensel;

Secy., John W. Tyson; Treas., B. S. Simonds; Solicitor, Oliver N. Heblich. The directors are: Geo. H. Steidle, John J. Miller, Pt. Carbon, Clarence E. Wensel, John W. Tyson, B. S. Simonds, Oliver N. Heblich, Clarence Messersmith, Dr. A. J. Knauss, Jos. G. Quinn, Robt. R. Waters, I. Thos. Lewis, Shenandoah and Leroy Bankes.

The Fidelity Building and Loan Association was incorporated on Dec. 23, 1923, with H. I. Silliman, President, and Francis E. Moore, Secy. The present officers are: Pres., W. J. Biever; C. B. Sillyman, Vice-Pres.; Treas., John V. Dreher; Secy., Francis E. Moore; Solicitor, Edgar Downey. The directors are: H. I. Silliman, Dr. M. C. Household-er, Wm. H. Ent, M. E. McMahon, Edw. L. Muensch and H. G. Rhoads.

Pottsville Post Office

The Pottsville Post Office was first established over a hundred years ago and its history up to the past year will be thoroughly dealt with on pages 325 to 342 of this historical series. However, a new post office building has been authorized by the federal authorities and the contract for a new building has been awarded.

The first plans for the building arrived on Aug. 24, and call for a building two stories high, 102 feet long and 105 feet wide. The main, and only entrance, will be on Second St. The lobby is to be 28 feet wide and 52 feet long. Overlooking the lobby is to be the mezzanine in which will be the offices of the Postmaster, Assistant Postmaster and the Postal Inspector.

On the second floor, room is to be provided for the Internal Revenue office, the Army and Navy recruiting officer, the agricultural department, and the civil service board. The Civil Service room is

to be a small auditorium which will accommodate about 1000 persons, and all examinations and meetings of postal employes are to be held there.

The lowest bid of \$184,000 for construction of the Post Office was submitted Sept. 12, 1935 by F. J. Cuppels of Kingston, Pa., but the Treasury Department considered it too high and all bids were rejected. A revision was made in the plans and on Oct. 29, Mr. Cuppels was awarded the contract at a bid of \$175,185.

In order to provide more room for the new building, it was necessary to acquire several properties on the south side of West Norwegian St. and in addition to the site occupied by the old post office building, Nos. 209, 211, 213 and 215 W. Norwegian St., including the driveway and stables of the Jas. S. Carpenter Estate, with a frontage of 10 feet; the brick blacksmith shop and homestead of the W. W. Martin Estate, with a frontage of 40 feet; the tenement property of 17 feet belonging to Mrs. Fred C. Zapf, formerly of Pottsville but of recent years a resident of Minersville, and the late Ezra C. Carey residence, with a frontage of 15 feet.

The building will be erected in a line with the Masonic Building on West Norwegian St. and with the P. & R. C. & I. Co. on Second St., giving an opportunity to widen Second St. between Norwegian and Mahantongo Sts.

Three Hospitals

There are three hospitals in Pottsville, the Pottsville Hospital (See Pages 315 to 319), which is the oldest; the Good Samaritan Hospital (See Pages 65 to 69); and the Warne Hospital.

The Lemos B. Warne Hospital was founded by Dr. Jos. L. Warne

and its doors were opened to the public on March 8th, 1923. It then had a capacity of twelve beds. Additional room was needed and on March 29, 1924, the Annex, consisting of three floors, forty rooms and a sun porch to the rear of the original building was opened.

Dr. Warne came to Pottsville as an interne at the Pottsville Hospital and after completing his work there, opened an office for practice in what is now the First Presbyterian Church Home and was then known as the Walker property. From there, he moved across the street to establish his hospital in the former W. L. Sheaffer property. April 1, 1925, Dr. Warne purchased the Miss Susan Sillyman property lot on Mahantongo St., adjoining the hospital. At the close of the second year over one thousand patients had been treated and expansion was a necessity. July 15, 1926 marked the formal opening of a large and handsomely appointed wing and professional building of the clinic.

On Aug. 28, 1931, Dr. Warne closed a deal by which he became the owner of the Swalm and Rickert properties adjoining the hospital on the east.

Dr. Warne is surrounded by a commendable group of medical and surgical talent and a staff of registered nurses, under the direction of Miss Mary Wells. Directly west of the main hospital building is the Warne Hospital Drug Store, which is managed by E. S. Fernsler, who was formerly manager of the Hodgson Drug Store, which was the successor to the Saylor drug store at 22 N. Centre St.

The Churches

Pottsville residents have always been church-going people, as is evidenced by the fact that there are

so many self-sustaining churches within the limits of the city.

The Protestant churches are as follows: Trinity Episcopal, at 201 S. Centre St., the first Protestant church to be founded in Pottsville, through its predecessor, St. Luke's Church of the same denomination, which came into existence in 1827 and was consecrated in 1830 (See Pages 275 to 277), the First Methodist Episcopal, at 330 West Market St., the Trinity Lutheran, at 201 N. Third St., (See Pages 751 to 762); the English Evangelical Lutheran at 509 Garfield Square; the First Presbyterian, at Third and Mahantongo Sts.; the Second Presbyterian, 419 Garfield Square; First Evangelical, 305 S. Centre St., (See Pages 343 to 345); Christ Evangelical Congregational Church, 452 E. Norwegian St.; First Baptist, Seventh and Mahantongo Sts.; Mount Zion Baptist, 334 Minersville St.; Bethel African Methodist, 818 Laurel St.; First Reformed, 910 W. Market St., (See Pages 828 to 832); Trinity Reformed, 312 W. Market St.; First Church of Christ Scientist, 608 W. Market St.; the Holiness Mission, 429 Laurel St., the Salvation Army, 224 N. Second St.

The Catholic Churches include: St. Patrick's Roman Catholic, 325 Mahantongo St., (See Pages 895 to 903); St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic, 915 Mahantongo St., (See Pages 910 to 918); Mary, Queen of Peace Church, 730 N. Centre St., (See Pages 892 to 894); St. Joseph's Roman Catholic (Italian), Fourth and Howard Ave., (See Pages 887 to 891).

The Temple Oheb Zedeck (See Pages 791 to 796) is at 310 West Arch St.

The history of each church is taken up elsewhere in this series.

Local Cemeteries

There are a number of cemeteries situated within the city limits. They include the Chas. Baber, at 1400 W. Market St.; the Welsh Cemetery, on Minersville St. above Third, but now abandoned; St. Patrick's No. 1, Howard Ave., near Fourth; St. Patrick's No. 2, Fourth and Schuylkill Ave.; St. Patrick's No. 3, on N. Centre St., near the City limits; the Friends Cemetery, Howard Ave., near Eighth; the New Mt. Laurel Cemetery, Deer Park; Odd Fellow's Cemetery, N. Centre near City limits; the Oheb-Zedek Cemetery, 950 N. Centre St.; the Presbyterian Cemetery, 11th and Howard Ave.; St. John the Baptist Cemetery, 20th and Mahantongo Sts., and at Schuylkill Ave., near Fourth, and the Italian Cemetery, not within the City limits but located at Hillside, and the African Methodist Cemetery on Laurel St.

The Mt. Laurel Cemetery is located at what is known as Bull's Head. It was opened by the late S. Monroe Enterline of Ashland and the late J. W. Moyer, of Pottsville. It adjoins the Yuengling Farm. The first person to be interred there was the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brinich, of Harrison St., Pottsville.

At one time there was a cemetery connected with the Welsh Baptist Church on N. Second St. The old church property was later sold to M. K. Joulwan, the Syrian importer, and on Sept. 15, 1908 Rev. W. D. Williams, W. L. Owens, J. P. Jones and W. B. Hall, former members of the Welsh Baptist Church, got out an injunction to prevent the cemetery from being used for anything but burial purposes. Dec. 1, 1913 a petition was filed in court asking permission to vacate the cemetery and in April, 1914 a compromise was made, and six lots were

purchased in the Presbyterian Cemetery and the bodies of the dead interred there were moved to that burial plot and no more burials took place on the Welsh Cemetery plot, which was later built up.

The Flowery Field Cemetery which is a private burial ground is located on Peach Mountain on the road to New Castle.

The Chas. Baber Cemetery was given to the public as a burying ground by the late Chas. Baber in his will which was probated on April 10, 1885. The vestry of the church is in charge of the management of the cemetery. Mr. Baber had made his will on March 25, 1885 and, according to law, the bequest of the cemetery being a public one, was invalid as his death occurred within a month from the date of the will. Foreseeing this, Mr. Baber provided that, if his death should occur within thirty days, the cemetery was to go to his wife and to be held in trust for the purpose for which he had named it. The cemetery which was described as being "on the knoll at the head of Market St., at the intersection of Minersville Road" was secured as a cemetery in connection with the Episcopal Church as early as July 21, 1847. The first burials were made there Oct. 25, 1848. Peter J. Pugh was appointed Superintendent of the Cemetery on April 14, 1930.

Educational Advantages

The free school system was adopted by the borough of Pottsville soon after the law became operative governing free schools. There are thirteen public school buildings and three parochial school buildings. The property of the public school district is valued at \$1,923,409 and the operating expenses of the public school district amounts to approximately \$314,231.60 annually.

One of the four Extension Undergraduate Centers of the Pennsylvania State College, having been founded here in 1934, with the Bunker Hill School building being appropriated for its use. The Pottsville Business College at 110 S. Centre St. trains pupils for business careers. It was founded in 1874 by Prof. A. H. Hinman and at the present time is under the management of Prof. Frank Taylor. There is also a Conservatory of Music, the Braun School of Music at 607 Mahantongo St., having been located formerly at 223 S. Centre St.

The Pottsville Free Public Library at Third and W. Market Sts., has an excellent collection of books, and ranks high in Library circles. (Pages 293 to 296).

Local Institutions

The Children's Home, while situated in the Borough of Mechanicsville, is conducted by the Pottsville Benevolent Association, of Pottsville. This institution provides homes for children who are orphans. It was opened in 1873, and is located in Agricultural Park. (Pages 73 to 75). The Board of managers, at the present time, is composed of the following persons: Pres., E. S. Filbert; Vice Pres., Rev. E. W. Weber and Mrs. Geo. H. Kaercher; Treas., Arthur W. Sheaffer; Corresponding Secy., Mrs. Geo. W. Ryon, Jr.; Recording Secy., Albert R. Maberry; managers, Elmore Scheerer, Harry C. Miller, C. E. Kendrick, G. A. Roehrig, Heber Nagle, Geo. Roose and T. R. Dad-dow.

The Pottsville Mission (Pages 196 to 198) is located at Eighth and Minersville Sts., and is maintained by public subscriptions. It provides a place of recreation and spiritual comfort for those who have no church affiliations, and who do not

belong to the Young Men's or Young Women's Christian Associations.

The Lincoln House was opened on June 15, 1935, for the purpose of providing a community house for the colored population.

There is a Young Men's Christian Association, of which Rev. H. W. Ewig is the Secretary (Pages 320 to 326) and a Young Women's Christian Association, of which Miss Jane C. Banks, of Anderson, Ind., is the General Secretary, and Miss Cornelia Eckert, of Wichita, Kan., Secretary of the Girl Reserves.

There is also a Pennsylvania Young Men's Christian Association, which is maintained for Pennsylvania Railroad employes exclusively. F. S. MacFeaters is the Secretary in charge.

Social Side Taken Care Of

The social side of life is well provided for by the many social clubs and fraternal societies in existence. There are three service clubs, the Rotary (Pages 346, 347), the Kiwanis and the Lions (Pages 184 to 186).

The Pottsville Club (Pages 120 to 122) has an exclusive membership, and the Knights of Malta, Knights of Columbus, the Elks, the Eagles, Odd Fellows, the Masons, the P. O. S. of A., the Moose, the American Legion and the Foreign War veterans all have homes in which social functions and meetings of the organization are held. Each lodge and club is considered separately in another section of this history.

The city is well supplied with auditoriums, the one at the new High School building being the last one to be opened. Charlton's Hall, the Armory, the Masonic Hall, the Phila. and Reading Coal and Iron Building, Junior Elementary school building at Twelfth and W. Market

Sts., and the school and church and lodge auditoriums provide assembly accommodations.

There are three motion picture theatres, the Capitol, the Hippodrome and the Hollywood. The Little Art Theatre Players, who produce amateur plays, maintain a small theatre on W. Arch St.

Over 5,000 Dwellings

It is estimated that there are 5,776 single dwellings in the city, and 147 families living in apartments; 4,200 families have telephones in their homes, 3,775 own autos, 3,291 families have gas, and there are 6,930 electrical outlets; 3,465 families own their homes, and 2,811 pay rent.

Court House Built In 1851

By an Act of Assembly passed on March 13, 1847, the question of the removal of the county seat from Orwigsburg to Pottsville was submitted to the qualified voters, and in October of that year, at the general election, the voters decided by a majority of 459 in favor of the removal. Doubts having arisen as to the constitutionality of the act. on March 8, 1848, another Act of Assembly was passed, legalizing the removal, provided that the citizens of the town would, at their own expense, purchase a lot and erect, within three years, a court house and public offices.

This was accomplished, and on May 19, 1851, the Court House was completed and accepted by the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, Luther Kidder, President; Jacob Hammer and Solomon Foster, Associate Judges. By another Act of Assembly, March 29, 1851, it was provided that after Dec. 1, 1851, the seat of justice should be situated and fixed in the Borough of Pottsville. (See Pages 1368 to 1376).

The first women jurors served at the Court House for the March term of Criminal Court, 1921.

The 19th Amendment to the Constitution, allowing the women the right to vote was ratified by Penna. on June 24, 1919, and at the Presidential election of Nov. 2, 1920, a big female vote was polled in the county.

The Republican party was not to be caught napping, and in July of 1920, the women's voting machinery was formed into a smoothly running machine, in anticipation of the coming election. The women were taxed 21 cents poll tax, and were registered and assessed at the same time.

By September, when registration day arrived, 2,900 women registered to vote, the Republicans being in the majority. They played an important part in carrying the county for Harding, and for C. A. Snyder as State Treasurer; Robert Heaton for Senator, C. A. Whitehouse. and Jos. Denning for Legislature, and John Reber for Congress.

Dec. 29th, the names of 300 county women were placed in the jury wheel, and on Feb. 11, 1921, the first women jurors were called for grand jury and petit jury duty at the March term of criminal court. They were Mrs. Mame Harron, Port Carbon; Mabel S. (Mrs. Chas. B.) Schum, and Mrs. A. D. Garret, of Pottsville. Mrs. Harron and Mrs. Garret served.

The petit jurors drawn were as follows: Mrs. Ellsworth Miller, Girardville; Mrs. Chas. Pavitt, Shenandoah; Mrs. Geo. Fielding, St. Clair; Mrs. Harry Atkinson, Minersville; Mrs. John B. Dengler, Pottsville; Mrs. Catharine Silliman, Mahanoy City; Mrs. Eleanor Norkiewicz, Mahanoy City; Sarah Gorman, Mahanoy City; Bessie Berkheiser, N.

Manheim; Miss Sallie Maurer, Hegins; Miss Elma Mills, Sch. Haven; Miss Lillian Saul, Sch. Haven; Miss Mae McCarthy, Sch. Haven; Miss Catherine Houts, Tower City, and Bessie Coleman, Ashland. Of these, Mrs. Fielding, Mrs. Miller and Miss Maurer were the first women drawn on a jury.

Transportation Facilities

The city is served by three railroads, the Reading, Pennsylvania, and Lehigh Valley.

The Reading Railroad was authorized in 1848 to establish a station in Pottsville and to extend its lines, the first depot being at Howard Ave. and Union Street. Prior to that time the railroad had extended as far as Mount Carbon. By means of purchase or lease the Reading Company, which was formerly the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, purchased all of the smaller roads with the exception of the Mahanoy and Lehigh Railroad and it controls more miles of railroad than any other road in the county. June 21, 1887, the present Reading depot at Coal and Norwegian Sts. was opened.

The Pennsylvania Railroad first came to town in 1886, the first car entering Pottsville on Sept. 1, 1886. The Lehigh Valley Railroad originally came into Pottsville over the Pennsylvania tracks and came into their station on Coal St. The Lehigh Valley trains now come into the People's Railway station at 12th St., and there is little passenger service into the city, most of the service being for freight. The Railway Express Agency Inc. handles freight deliveries.

After the electric trolleys were discontinued in 1932 bus lines were established for inter-city transportation and there is now ample bus service to the various towns of the

county from Pottsville, as well as buses to Philadelphia, Reading, Harrisburg and New York and other distance points. (See Pages 247 to 274 for complete history).

The Newspapers

There are now three newspapers published in the city, the Pottsville Republican, which was established Oct. 28, 1884, the Pottsville Morning Paper, which was founded Oct. 28, 1922 and the Pottsville Journal. The newspapers will be discussed later in this series.

Good Hotels in City

1935 finds the city supplied with a number of thriving hotels, among them being the Necho Allen, the Penna. Hall, the Park, the Rennas, the Eagle, the Wm. Penn, Hotel Davis and the Milner, formerly the Plaza. The hotels of early days and of the present day will be thoroughly discussed in this history.

Three Monuments Erected

There are three monuments. Two of them are placed in Garfield Square, one erected by the Soldiers' Monument Park Association as a tribute to the patriotism of the soldiers who served in the Civil War (See pages 97 to 104) and the other in memory of those who served in the Spanish American War, this monument being erected in recent years. The third monument is the one which was erected in 1852 in memory of Henry Clay. Although the monuments are located in Pottsville, persons in other towns of the county also contributed generously toward their erection.

In early days, Pennsylvania was the principal coal producing state in the Union, and Henry Clay was a staunch advocate of a protective tariff on that product. The early residents of Pottsville were grateful for his interests, and when he died on June 29, 1852, the erection of a

monument to his memory was proposed. On July 26th, 1852, funeral obsequies were held in Pottsville, and the cornerstone of the monument was laid. A Henry Clay Monument Association was formed, and John Bannan gave the ground on which the monument was to be built. The ground was granted upon certain conditions, and as these conditions were not carried out, the land reverted to Mr. Bannan, but on July 21, 1864, he and his wife conveyed the same lot to the borough of Pottsville for the sum of one dollar.

After the cornerstone was laid, there was a slight delay in carrying out the remainder of the work, but on the Fourth of July, 1855, the monument was finally dedicated with appropriate ceremonies.

In looking over the history of the planning and erection of the monument, some interesting facts come to light. The entire cost of it was \$7,342.58. We find that the statue itself cost \$2,090; the column, \$3,227.14; the hauling, \$94; the raising of the statue, and the painting of it \$275. The masonry and lithography cost amounted to \$1,441.16, and the inscriptions cost \$60.

The statue was the first large iron casting of its type ever executed in this country. The statue was moulded and cast by Robert Wood, and the master mason in charge was Jacob Madara. The statue was modeled after a representation of Mr. Clay in an engraving owned by Mr. Bannan, entitled "The Senate of 1850," engraved by Robert Whitechurch, of London, after a painting by P. F. Roethermel.

The weight of the statue is 15,708 pounds, or more than seven tons. The stone work of the base of the column is 15 feet high, and is of material taken from our mountains. The heights of the cast iron portion

of the column is 51 feet, and the height from the lower portion of the base is 61 feet. The entire weight of the castings, column and statue is 45½ tons.

According to Miss McCool, the large derrick used for the raising of the monument and statue lay for years along the base of the hill upon which the monument is placed and on August 12, 1857, by direction of council it was planted under the supervision of Mr. Chillson of Pt. Carbon, at the corner of Centre and Mahantongo Sts., to be used as a flagstaff. A representation of an Indian with a hatchet in his uplifted hand was attached to the top of the pole to serve as a weather vane. The pole which was 108 feet in height remained on the corner until the fall of 1874 when it was removed because it was feared that it was becoming unsafe.

Water, Electricity and Gas

There is an excellent water supply, which is secured from the mountain streams and is furnished from reservoirs of the Pottsville Water Company, a private company which was established in 1834. A public water supply for the town was proposed in 1830 when Burd Patterson, Esq., had a survey made from Centre and Norwegian Sts., to the spring in the vicinity of 11th and Mahantongo Sts.,. The report of Enoch Lewis, who made the survey, on Oct. 2, 1830, was to the effect that a stream of water could be carried from the spring to any house, then erected, on Centre, Market or Norwegian Streets and that this supply might be rendered a very important auxiliary in case of fires if conveyed through town by a subterranean pipe. The matter was under discussion for about four years and on April 11, 1834, the Pottsville Water Company was char-

tered by the Commonwealth of Penna. The company now has five reservoirs with a capacity of 1,475,000,000 gallons.

The electricity for light and power is provided by the Penna. Power and Light Company, which has its main office in Allentown.

The gas for illuminating and fuel purposes is supplied by a privately owned gas company, the Pottsville Gas Co., which was established in 1850.

Compensation Office

The Workmen's Compensation Bureau of the State Dept. of Labor and Industry is located in Pottsville, having a suite of rooms in the Thompson building where the cases are heard. There is a large assembly room of the fourth floor of the building in which the compensation hearings are conducted and there are three individual offices included in the suite.

The Compensation Law was enacted in June 1915, to be effective as of Jan. 1, 1916. The State office was established here in December, 1915 and Paul W. Houck, the first referee, assumed charge on Jan. 2, 1916. The office was then in the Ulmer building at 207 N. Centre St. Mr. Houck was succeeded by Thos. C. Seidel of Reading, who served until April 1, 1931 when Marcus B. Eaches was appointed and served until Sept. 1, 1933.

The Schuylkill County cases were then assigned to Referee E. Lewis of Wilkes Barre. Referee Lewis came to Pottsville several times a month and conducted hearings in the Court House, the Pottsville office being discontinued except for a small office in the Thompson building which was maintained by Clarence Smith, who has been employed by the Compensation Bureau since December of 1917. Mr. Smith

was assigned to Referee Lewis at Wilkes Barre and Miss Genevieve Flaherty, who has been with the Bureau since July, 1917, was assigned to Referee Gomer Davis of Scranton, who is in charge of the Carbon and Northumberland County cases.

The Pottsville office was reestablished when Bruce S. Clayton was appointed Referee for Schuylkill County by Governor Pinchot on Feb. 13, 1934. The hearings were conducted at the Court House for a time but on March 15, 1934, the present suite of offices in the Thompson building was secured and since that time, there has been ample room for the hearings in the offices of the Bureau. Arthur S. Schrager, who came here from German, Pa. about six years ago, was appointed the referee on June 22, 1935 by Governor Geo. Earle and is serving at present.

Other Offices Maintained Here

The Southern Schuylkill Chapter of the American Red Cross maintains headquarters at 212 Mahantongo St. Miss Gladys F. Hall is the executive secretary, having come to Pottsville on Nov. 12, 1934.

The Rehabilitation Bureau of the Department of Labor and Industry is located in the Masonic building, having been in operation in Pottsville since 1922. The work of rehabilitating cripples from industrial accidents in five counties is handled through the local office, of which J. Leo McInerney, of Mahanoy City is the head, having been appointed in September, 1935. The offices were formerly located in the Ulmer and Thompson buildings.

Two Motor Clubs have their offices here, the Schuylkill County Motor Club (Pages 281 to 283) with offices at 119 S. Centre St. and the

Keystone Motor Club, at 108 N. Centre St.

The liquor store which is under direction of the Liquor Control Board of the State is located at 310 N. Centre St. and was opened on Jan. 1, 1934.

The State Workmen's Insurance Fund office has been located in the Hasler Building, Pottsville since 1926, when J. E. Bohner, of Hegins, opened his office here after maintaining an office at his home in Hegins prior to that time. John A. Malinowski, of Mahanoy City is now the district representative, this being the fifth district.

Dr. Lewis Bacon is the county health director, this being a state appointment.

Mrs. Bessie Moore is the registrar of Vital Statistics for the state.

The State Liquor Enforcement Division officers are stationed here.

The Penna. Society to Protect Children from Cruelty had an office at 116½ West Market St., for the past twelve years but lack of funds caused the office to be closed recently. Mrs. Sallie Thornton of Frackville is handling the cases.

Pottsville is in the Weiser District of the Penna. Department of Forests and Waters. The district comprises all of Schuylkill county, Luzerne county south of the Susquehanna and as far as Wilkes Barre; Carbon County and Berks and Lehigh Counties as far south as the Blue Mountains. 90% of the work consists of the prevention and control of forest fires. The local office which was opened in 1920 is now located at 6 N. Centre St., having moved there from the Ulmer Building.

The district foresters have been as follows: Chas. E. Baer, from 1920 to 1923; H. J. Smith, from 1923 to

1928; A. T. Clepper, from 1928 to 1929; J. C. Middour from 1929 to 1933 and Thos. O. Bradley, from 1933 to the present time. The Assistant Dist. Forester is M. H. Moyer. There are six inspectors, eleven observation towers and 450 fire wardens.

The Home Loan Corporation office was opened in Pottsville on April 21, 1934 with Phaon Sheidy, of Pine Grove in charge. On Nov. 1, 1935, Philip J. Lynch of Harrisburg was placed in charge. The offices are maintained in the Court House.

Board of Trade Was Once Active

Compared to its speed of development in the early days, Pottsville in 1935 seemed to be merely marking time in the industrial line. The force of necessity made necessary a large variety of industries in days gone by and the building of a new community could have been accomplished only by men of great faith, vitality and resourcefulness.

One of the earliest bodies which must have industries if it would be of Trade. Realizing that the town functioned in the town was a Board come prosperous, a number of men banded together and formed an organization which functioned for many years and then fell into disuse when prosperous times arrived.

The very earliest Board of Trade was particularly interested in the stimulation of the coal industry. As early as Jan. 1833, we find that Burd Patterson was president of the Board; John C. Offerman was Vice Pres.; Samuel Lewis, Treas., and Andrew Russel, Secy. The other members of the board included Chas. Lawton, Benj. H. Springer, Samuel Brooke, Samuel J. Potts, H. Brooke Buckley, Jas. E. White of Minersville, and Thos. S. Ridgway and Martin. They did

much to develop the town and then were not heard of until 1884, when the late J. H. Zerbey was becoming established in the newspaper field with his new daily paper, "The Republican." Then Mr. Zerbey was heartily in favor of any movement which would instill new life into the business of the town and the Board of Trade accomplished wonders in a short time but again died a natural death, after the necessity passed. It was succeeded by the Merchants' Association which performed a similar stimulating effect upon business life and then disappeared from sight, to be succeeded by the Chamber of Commerce which was organized in 1918.

A meeting was held in the rooms of the Merchants' Association on June 4, 1918 for the purpose of forming a Chamber of Commerce. Those present at the meeting were: Van Dusen Rickert, C. A. Whitehouse, B. M. Rifkin, Geo. Keiser, Wm. Wilhelm, W. G. Payne, Daniel Duffy, Conrad Hock, Dr. Leon Miller, John Jacobs, N. H. Rich, O. L. Underwood, W. K. Woodbury, W. J. Sheldon, Clarence Mesersmith, J. J. McKnight, H. R. Knapp, John Royal, M. F. Sheaffer and Hugh Dolan.

The organization committee was composed of the following: C. G. Allan, Jas. Archbald, H. E. Atkins, W. J. Biever, Geo. Bright, L. S. Cairns, Francis Critz, Hugh Dolan, Geo. Patterson, E. L. Herndon, Conrad Hock, C. P. Hoffman, G. M. Keiser, J. Kingsbury, H. R. Knapp, W. P. Knight, E. C. Luther, J. J. McKnight, Clarence Messersmith, Edw. Miller, F. P. Mortimer, W. G. Payne, C. D. Rishel, N. H. Rich, W. J. Richards, Van Dusen Rickert, W. E. Quinlin, J. G. Royal, A. W. Sheaffer, W. J. Sheldon, J. Ulmer, O.

L. Underwood, C. A. Whitehouse, W. C. Wilson and W. K. Woodbury.

The drive for members closed on July 5, 1918 and 453 were enrolled as members of the organization. John G. Royal was elected President; A. W. Sheaffer, 1st vice-pres.; E. C. Luther, 2nd vice-pres.; D. W. Kaercher, Treas.

In August, 1918, Edw. J. Samp, of Madison, Wis., arrived to take up his duties as secretary and in October of that year, his place was taken by W. H. Barbour. The present officers are as follows: Pres., J. Robt. Bazley; 1st vice-pres., Dr. Miles Zimmerman; 2nd vice-pres., Carl B. Raring; Treas., S. T. Deibert, and Secretary-Manager, Russel C. Bevan.

With a number of the industries having lapsed within the past year or two, there is necessity and opportunity for several new industrial plants in the city to employ the many men who are unable to secure permanent positions. The shutting down of the Eastern Steel Mill and the discontinuance of a number of smaller industries has thrown many out of employment.

At the present time, Pottsville's industries represent an investment of \$3,751,500. There are 49 manufacturing establishments and 2,063 employed with a monthly payroll of \$139,166.

The industries and business places in the city will be considered in another volume of this history.

Coal and Mines

According to Rupp's History of Schuylkill County, published in 1845, the first coal discovered in Pottsville was in 1807 when the foundation for Greenwood Furnace was dug, in digging which a vein of coal was found. This statement is credited to Abraham Pott, son of John Pott.

In digging the foundation of Pott's grist mill in 1810, a vein of nine feet thick was struck and was later successfully worked by Jos. Beddle.

The first successful attempt to introduce anthracite coal in the Philadelphia market was by Col. George Shoemaker in 1812. Col. Shoemaker loaded nine wagons with coal from his mines at Centreville, near Pottsville, and hauled them to Phila. There, the people to whom he tried to sell his product denounced him as a swindler for trying to sell them "black rocks" for coal. Undaunted, Col. Shoemaker disposed of two loads for the cost of transportation and then gave the seven other loads to persons who promised to try to use it. Messrs. Mellon and Bishop were induced to try it in their rolling mill in Delaware County and, finding it successful, made a public announcement of the fact in the Phila. newspapers and the success of the product was then assured. It was thus that the fact was established that the coal was actually combustible and could be used as a general fuel.

Miss McCool in her history, remarks that a Mr. Hobart, from Pottstown, is supposed to have dug coal from a hollow northeast of town and a wagoner, Mr. Arltip, who lived in the vicinity of the present town of Pottsville, conveyed the product to Pottstown for Mr. Hobart as early as 1811. Col. John M. Crossland is credited with taking the first boat load of coal on the canal direct from Pottsville to New York in 1837, establishing direct trade with that city, according to Samuel T. Wiley's history.

Except for the Hadesty (John) and Cullen operation, there are now no mines operating directly in Pottsville, but in the early days there was much activity in that field.

From J. Oliver Roads, of the P. & R. C. & I. Co., was secured a brief resume of the mines which have been located in Pottsville.

The York Farm Colliery, from which the section of Pottsville known as York Farm gets its name, was originally opened by a drift in 1814, by Dr. McFarland of Orwigsburg on a tract of land which was afterward purchased by the York Coal Co. Later, George Potts opened the main colliery, sinking slopes on the Black Mine (Peach Mountain) Vein. He operated the mine until he failed. The breaker burned down and the mine was closed in 1857.

The Guinea Hill Colliery working came east as far as Second St. The original opening was a tunnel driven into Guinea Hill just above the Methodist Church at Fourth and Arch Sts. Later, a slope was sunk on Laurel St. and the opening is still visible and serves to drain water from the mines. Messrs. Chas. Potts and Benj. Bannan operated this mine, known as the Black Mine, in 1836 and continued to operate it until 1848.

The Gate Vein Colliery was located through a drift at Centre and Nichols St. and was operated by McKechney in 1828. Clayton and McGinnis sank the slope and operated until sheriffed.

Lawton's East Gate Colliery was also located in that section on the east side of the railroad. The slope went down between the Pennsylvania and Reading Railroads at the stockyard. The mine was opened by Lawton and Bacon in 1830, Bacon retiring in 1833.

The Lewis Red Ash Colliery was located north of Fishbach. The original operators were Edward B. Palmer and Gideon Garagues who operated it from 1831 to 1852.

The Miller & Rich shaft colliery and the Milnes & Spencer collieries were also located north of Fishbach and afterwards consolidated with the Duncan Collieries when their workings started to overlap.

The Westwood Colliery was located at the west end of W. Market St. on the west branch of the Schuylkill Railroad. It was opened by John Stanton in 1834.

The Connecticut Colliery was situated just east of the junction of the Lehigh Valley and the People's Railway. The Eastwood Colliery, so called so as to distinguish it from the Westwood colliery, was located in the same vicinity. It was close to the Connecticut and was opened by a tunnel driven by Milnes and Spencer.

The Bull's Head Colliery, later the Gate Vein, was found at the head of Fishbach.

The Salem Colliery was located on the east of Pottsville, at Young's Landing and was opened by the Young Bros. in 1830.

The Greenwood Colliery was operated on Coal St. in the yard of the P. & R. shops. This mine was opened through a drift by Buckley on the west side of Carbon Hill, upon the Greenwood tract on the margin of the Greenwood canal basin.

The Pottsville Gap Colliery was opened on Sharp Mountain west of the Schuylkill River. The original operators were Lippincott and Richards in 1826, Robert Barclough taking it over in 1845. The vein was reopened by Alfred Lawton and worked for a short time. White ash coal was mined. Mr. Morris made a drift in the same vein in the locality of the Ridgway residence in Morrisville.

Samuel Lewis opened a slope on the western face of the hill, known as Young's Hill. Although Mr.

Lewis for the safety of the town, never approached nearer the surface with his breastings than 104 feet and left substantial pillars under the gangway, a large area of the town settled as a result of the workings. The residence of John Offerman, on Centre St. between Mahantongo and Church Alley (Howard Ave.) was so badly affected that the family vacated it and the house remained unused until the mining ceased.

Mr. Lewis continued operations until the close of 1839. In 1840 Burd Patterson succeeded him and in 1842, the colliery was abandoned.

The Sharp Mountain Gap Colliery later became known as the Sherman Colliery, of the Sherman Coal Co.

The Sherman Coal Co. was originally formed by Dr. George Sherman of Detroit, Mich., a man who was prominent in the medical world and the head of the Sherman Vaccine Laboratories in Detroit. The colliery was opened in March 1917 and although active mining ceased in 1933, the Sherman Coal Co. is still in existence. After the death of Dr. Sherman, E. O. Marty, his son-in-law became the head of the firm.

E. O. Marty is the president and general manager, Estelle C. Marty, Vice President and Clyde R. Dunkel, the Treasurer and general sales manager.

The reason for cessation of mining at the Sherman Colliery was due to the expiration of the lease with the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. It was necessary to find new territory for the mining activities so the Indian Head Anthracite Co. Inc. was formed with the same officers as the Sherman Coal Co.

Operations were started at the Indian Head Colliery on land leased

from the Pardee Estate. The coal shipped from both mines has had an excellent reputation with the trade, as it was of superior quality. It is shipped to New England, New York and Canada and other markets.

The Hadesty (John) and Cullen (John J.) mining firm in January 1935 secured a lease from the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. and the western part of Sharp Mountain is being worked by them. This was formerly the site of the Sherman Coal Co. workings.

P. & R. C. & I. Co.

In 1870, the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Co. was organized as an auxiliary of the Phila. and Reading Railroad Co. The new company purchased, during that year, seventy thousand acres of coal lands in Schuylkill County.

In 1873, the Phila. and Reading having lent many thousands of dollars to individual operators to work their coal lands, with unsatisfactory results, decided to go into the coal business themselves.

A pool was formed at Port Richmond, for the consolidation and shipment of coal for producers and the company engaged in the retail coal business in Phila., where they built large yards.

The main offices of the company are still maintained at Philadelphia. The Pottsville office is located at 200 Mahantongo St. Ralph E. Taggart was elected president of the company on Oct. 4, 1935 succeeding the late A. J. Maloney.

Shoemakersville Wreck

The "Shoemakersville Wreck", the most disastrous railroad accident in the history of the county, occurred at 6:20 o'clock on the evening of Friday, Sept. 19, 1890 and because so many of those killed and injured were from Pottsville, it should be included in Pottsville's history.

Twenty-two lives were lost and twenty-eight injured when the evening flier of eight coaches, filled with passengers returning from Philadelphia and Reading crashed at full speed into the debris of a wreck caused a few minutes earlier when two coal trains collided at a point about a quarter of a mile north of Shoemakersville.

The passenger train was shunted off the rails by the wreckage of the coal trains and the engine, tender, baggage car, smoker and Pullman coach were hurled down the 25 foot embankment into the river in a pile of debris. It was almost 24 hours after the wreck occurred before the last of the bodies had been recovered, despite the fact that relief trains and wrecking equipment were sent from Pottsville, Tamaqua and Reading. The official list of dead included: Mr. and Mrs. Edward Fox, Harry J. Loughlin, Mr. and Mrs. John E. Fredericks, James M. Tempelin, fireman, Solomon Hoover, hardware merchant, George R. Kaercher, Esq., chief counsel for the Reading Co., and former district attorney and A. A. Greenwald, all of Pottsville; John Osborne, Phila.; John Schadel, Port Richmond; James Becker, Chief Burgess, Mahanoy City; Michael Somers, Mahanoy City; Dr. N. C. Vanderslice, Phoenixville; Frank Hoffman, Mahanoy City; John L. Miller, Cressona; Harry Jacoby, Berne Twp., Berks Co.; George Lambert, fireman, Tamaqua; Joseph Bausman, Philadelphia.

The list of injured included residents from almost every section of the county and as far north as Shamokin, the flier which was behind time when the wreck occurred being scheduled to shift coaches at Port Clinton for north of the mountain towns. Many Berks County residents were also injured in the crash.

M. H. Shollenberger of Hamburg, had the unique distinction of viewing the crash. He was standing on the opposite side of the river when he noticed a coal train going south. As he watched it, he saw the train suddenly part and, before warning could be given by the crew of the train, a second coal train running closely behind crashed into the detached cars, hurling them onto the north bound track. An instant after this occurred, the passenger train, north bound, struck the wreckage and, careening from the rails, went over the embankment.

The passenger train ground the coal cars to bits and so great was its speed that it went about 150 feet after it struck the wreck before going over the embankment.

The smoke stack of the engine could be seen just out of the water when daylight arrived the next morning, the wreck having occurred at dusk. The top of the Pullman coach and the smoker were just visible.

Brakeman Michael Gillen, of Pottsville, was trapped in one of the passenger coaches but managed to escape and he is credited with having prevented an even worse catastrophe by going into the five feet of water in the river, and throwing water on flames which burst from the wrecked cars. A considerable amount of investigation and speculation followed the wreck, the blame being placed finally by a coroner's jury upon the brakeman of one of the coal trains, it being held that he failed to go back to warn the second coal train of the accident to the first. The investigation showed that the trains were twelve minutes apart when they left Perry's, a few miles north of the scene.

The funerals of the victims were held the following Tuesday and

Pottsville and Schuylkill county as a whole went into mourning. Most of the industries and stores were closed to permit the friends and relatives of the victims to attend the services.

A special train carrying over 300 officials and friends of Attorney Kaercher arrived in Pottsville at two o'clock. Hundreds of railroad and mining officials from the eastern section of the state were also in attendance.

The day prior all of the wreckage had been cleared up, the removable portions being taken to Reading while the wooden debris was burned.

Earliest Settlers In Region

A company was formed in 1786, according to some ancient records, consisting of Messrs. Samuel Potts, Thos. Potts, the owners of the land, General Arthur St. Clair, Samuel Baird, Thos. Rutter, Thos. Maybury, Jesse Potts, etc. all of Pottstown, Montgomery County to explore and clear the lands owned by the Messrs. Potts. A sawmill was erected on Norwegian Creek, and, with the proceeds of the lumber which was sent down stream and sold, the improvements were paid for. The tract of land then owned and improved contained eighteen hundred acres and the original town plot of Pottsville was built near the center of it. It was while digging the tail race of this mill that coal was discovered and the feasibility of developing this industry and the lumber trade was considered, so much so that a plan was launched to make an examination of the Schuylkill River and consider making it navigable. However, the expense of the undertaking was too great and the company abandoned the enterprise at the end of the year, leaving

the land in the possession of its owners, the Messrs. Potts.

Thus, there is a doubt created as to whether Pottsville does not, after all, derive its name from its earlier owners, Messrs. Samuel and Thos. Potts, rather than from John Pott who developed the town. It remains for some later historian to unearth definite proof of this.

Rupp's history, published in 1845, says: "Before 1790, there were, comparatively speaking, few settlers north of the Blue, or Kittatinny Mountain, within the limits of Schuylkill County, except in the valley south of the Second Mountain. About the year 1795 or '96, two individuals, Lewis Reese and Isaac Thomas, settled on the north of the well known 'Schneid Berg, i. e. Sharp Mountain, in the Schuylkill Gap. Having purchased a tract of land, and erected a small furnace, carrying it on for some time, they sold it in 1806, to John Pott, of District township, Berks county.

"Mr. Pott tore down the furnace, and erected in its stead, Greenwood forge, the remains of which are still visible. In 1807, he built Greenwood Furnace, which was successfully in operation until 1827, the time of John Pott's death; then it passed into the hands of Benjamin Pott, son of the deceased, and since through several hands. The furnace is, however, no more. The Greenwood Basin occupies the site of the old furnace."

Miss McCool's history of Schuylkill County, has the following to say about the original town of Pottsville. We quote: "The original town of Pottsville was laid out by Mr. John Pott in 1816, through Mr. Henry Donnell, civil engineer, who made the survey and executed the plans of Mr. Pott. Geographically

considered, the town occupied the northern slope of Sharp Mountain and the valley of the Norwegian Creek. The Schuylkill River enters from the east but was in no part connected with the original town plot. It receives the Norwegian Creek from the north, turns abruptly to the south and flows through the gorge already described. Norwegian Creek has two principal branches which intersected the original town. The larger one had its rise among the hills west of the town and following its irregular course eastwardly, it crossed Market St., just outside of the original town limits between Third and Fourth Streets, continuing in its course parallel with Norwegian St., and reaching the main stream at Railroad Street. A small streamlet from the east entered the creek but a few yards south of this junction. The other principal branch rises north of the western elevations and following a southeasterly direction entered the original town limits on Second street in the rear of the town cemetery and merged with the main creek at about Callowhill street (now Arch). This creek in its main bed enters the town from the north and empties into the Schuylkill River in the locality of the Mauch Chunk street bridge, its original course having been west of the present passenger depot and warehouses of the P. & R. R. Co. at the base of a steep declivity, close upon the Center Turnpike since called Centre St.

"Pottsville embraced in its original limits but a small proportion of the territory incorporated as the borough in 1828. Its boundary lines extended along Railroad street from Union to High (Race) street thence to the west side of Centre, thence north to Minersville street, west two

squares to Third street, south to Market, out Market nearly to Sixth street, south to Union and east to Railroad. Centre street, the main avenue, which is 80 feet wide, was necessarily angled, owing to the configuration of the land, and is a portion of the Center Turnpike which was contracted under the superintendence of the late Thos. Sillyman, Esq."

The original town plot, according to the late D. C. Henning, embraced all the ground from Second street on the west to Railroad St., on the east and from Union St. on the south to Laurel Alley on the west side of Centre, and to High (Race) street on the east side of Centre St., and also west of Second St. from Norwegian St., on the north to Union St. on the south, and extending to Fifth St., on the west. At the time he laid out the town the ground of the square between Centre St. on the east and Second St. on the west and the two alleys, now called Race St. and Laurel St., was given by Mr. Pott to the people of Pottsville, to be used as a burial ground and for the erection of a building for a school and for religious services.

Original Tracts

The present boundaries of Pottsville include three original tracts of land called Pomona, Stephens Green and Coal Pit; parts of three other tracts which are called Pine Grove Honor and Norway in the patents, and parts of two others, one of which was surveyed on a warrant to Michael Bright, dated Oct. 30, 1794, and the other, the Minnich and Zoll tract, on warrants to Conrad Minnich and Jacob Zoll dated July 10, 1792 and Sept. 5, 1794, and Yorkville Borough.

On July 29, 1751, a warrant was granted to Edmund Physick of Philadelphia County for 200 acres

of land including a large spruce swamp about four or six miles from James Boone's land on the Schuylkill, County of Lancaster—, and the surveyor general was directed to survey the lands. A survey was made Nov. 2, 1762, and a tract of land containing 206½ acres with the customary 6% allowance for roads, and which in the return of survey was described as being situated in Berks, formerly Lancaster County, over the Blue Mountains. On Feb. 12, 1788 a patent for this tract of land, by name "Pomona," was granted to Arthur St. Clair, Wm. Morris, Luke Morris and Samuel Potts, who succeeded to the right of Edmund Physick, warrantee.

On Feb. 14, 1788, a patent was granted to Arthur St. Clair, Wm. Morris, Luke Morris, and Samuel Potts for a tract of land called "Norway," situate on the far side of Tuscarora Mountain, Berks County. This was the tract that had been surveyed by Ellis Hughes, whose right, entered May 21, 1766, had become vested in these persons to whom the patent was granted.

Samuel Potts received a patent on Feb. 13, 1788, for the tract of land called "Coal Pit" situate on the east branch of Schuylkill at the north side of Tuscarora Mountain in Brunswigh Township, Berks County." It had been surveyed on a warrant granted to Samuel Potts, July 13, 1751.

The part of the Norway tract west of the Navigation tract was called, "The Square Tract" because of its shape.

The patent for the Pine Grove tract was granted on Feb. 13, 1788, to Arthur St. Clair, Wm. Morris, Luke Morris, and Samuel Potts, and was described as "being situated on the Tuscarora Mountain in Brunswick Township in Berks County," having been surveyed by applica-

tion of John Melchior, May 21, 1756, and his right had become vested in the patentees. This included the part of Pottsville included in E. Norwegian St. and the site of the F. W. Hughes residence now the Good Samaritan Hospital.

A patent was granted to Samuel Potts on Feb. 11, 1788, for the tract of land called Honor, described as situate on a branch of the Norwegian Creek over the Second Mountain in Brunswick, Berks Co., he having been granted a warrant for surveying of land on Aug. 4, 1787.

The whole of the Pomona, Coal Pit, part of the Pine Grove, and a small part of the Norway tracts became vested in John Pott in the year 1808, and in 1816 on part of the Pomona Tract the original plot of Pottsville was laid out.

John Pott sold a part of the Pine Grove tract to Jacob Alter who laid out Alter's addition, which included Coal St. north of Norwegian on the eastern and western sides of the street.

Benjamin Pott's addition included the tracts south of the Pomona tract lying between the southern line of the town plot or Howard Avenue and the Stephens Green plot.

South Centre St. west from the Henry Clay Monument was taken up by Baltzer Geer (Gehr) in December 1791. It became known as the Stephens Green tract, a patent being granted to Stephen Paschall on Feb. 24, 1792. The Stephen's Green Tract became vested in Israel W. Morris and a town plot known as Morrisville or Morris's Addition was laid out by his son, Henry Morris, in 1829.

John Pott died intestate on Oct. 23, 1827 and his property was divided among his heirs. Abraham Pott conveyed one-half of his share

to Burd Patterson and this included the part known as Pott and Patterson Addition, which was laid out in 1829. It took in the section from Second St. to about 16th St. and from Norwegian to West Race Sts., or the old Middle Ward, now the Fourth Ward.

Wm. Pott's share, which included part of the Pine Grove Tract lying east of Norwegian St. became vested in Chas. Loeser, as trustee. On it was laid out what became known as Wm. Rhodes' Addition or the Eastern Addition to Pottsville in 1829.

Buckley's Addition and afterward the Greenwood Addition, also called the Orchard was another portion of the Pott Estate, and included the John Pott dwelling house, the furnace, forge and Coal Pit tract, all of which was the possession of Benj. Pott and was conveyed to Brooks Buckley and others.

The greater part of the Norway Tract and part of the land called Honor became vested in Samuel Kepner who, on Jan. 20, 1816, conveyed the property to the Schuylkill Navigation Co. and it became known as the Navigation Tract. The title to the Navigation tract, by sundry conveyances, became vested in Abigail McKnight, as trustee for the bank of Kentucky and in the Miners Bank of Pottsville.

The town plot known as the Norwegian Addition was laid out on this tract of land in 1852. Fishbach is a part of the Norwegian Tract and has been known by that name for almost a century.

Title to the tract of land west of the Pomona Tract became vested in Joseph Wood and others in 1830 and on this Wood's Addition was laid out. This was at one time known as the Eyre Tract and included the section west of 12th St.

Part of the Minnich and Zoll Tracts, adjoining Morris's Addition, on the south, was conveyed to N. Thuron, who laid out Thuron's Addition.

The boundaries of the borough of Pottsville in the year 1850, according to a map prepared by Geo. B. Strauch, Civil Engineer, included a number of tracts and additions. On the north, was Fishbach and Jalappa; on the south, the farthest line south was approximately the Cressona Road; on the east, Mechanicsville marked the end of the borough and on the west, Yorkville. Within the borough limits, there were many small additions which were called, usually, by the name of the owner. Among them were to be found Richard's Addition, Wood & Lyon's Addition, Morris Addition, Benj. Pott's Addition, Pott and Patterson's Addition, the Ronaldson and Eyre Tract, Norwegian Addition, Chamberlain Addition, Farnum and Huntzinger's Addition, Greenwood Addition, Wynn's Addition, Alter's Addition, the Eastern Addition, Huntzinger, Moreton and Mortimer's Addition.

Smaller Communities Disappear

The present city of Pottsville has swallowed up many small communities which were at one time known by local names which were given for various reasons. Allensville was in the vicinity of 12th and Arch Sts., and was property owned by the Allens. Bath was in the vicinity of E. Railroad St., and was named for Frank Bath who laid the original lines for the Pottsville Water Co. and owned property in Jalappa. The territory which extended from Third to 12th St. on Arch and north to Sanderson was once called Guinea Hill. Hesserstettle, afterwards Yorkville, extended west from 16th St., and was named from

a province in Germany. Hillside, which is still called by that name, was along Cressona Road and Rum Hollow was north of Cressona Road and is now part of Main St., Mt. Carbon. Morrisville was later Morris Addition and now S. Centre St. North America was north of the City line, beginning at the North end of Water St. in Jalappa.

Salem was called for the Salem Hill Coal lands and was east of the city line in the vicinity of Young's Landing. Whip-poor-will, the settlement around a colliery of that name, was the northwest corner of the city beyond Eagan St. Young's Landing was at the corner of Mauch Chunk and Anderson Sts. Skelpentown or Skalpentown was north of Mill Creek Ave., on the road to St. Clair. Quinntown was on West Arch St., between 11th and 12th Sts.

Fishback or Fishbach was the part of the city which afterwards became the North Ward and is now part of the Sixth ward and largely retains its local name as does also Jalappa, which is also a part of the Sixth Ward. Greenwood was the present Greenwood Hill. This information on the early communities was compiled by the Public Library.

Origin of Street Names

The names of the local streets have changed as the years have passed and from the maps of 1830, 1858 and 1870, the names which they were called in early days have been secured.

At one time, Mahantongo St. between 12th and 17th Sts. was called Western Ave. From 19th St. west, it was known as German Street.

High Street is the original name of Race St.

Centre St. was named from the Centre Turnpike which ran through Pottsville. Sometime before 1816, it is said that Chas. Siegfried, a

blacksmith employed by John Pott, refused to accept Centre St. in payment of a \$25 debt, saying that it was a swamp. John Pott paid the cash and started a town.

Market St. was originally a one-sided affair, only the south side of the street being added to the town originally and that between Second St. and about 100 feet west of Fifth.

Garfield Square was designated as Market Square for many years, until upon the death of President Garfield, it was changed to Garfield Square by city ordinance.

In the year 1816, Norwegian St became part of the original town and the length of it was from Fifth St., on the west to Railroad St. on the east. On early tracts of land we find the Norway tract and Norwegian Twp. The street was probably named from Norwegian Creek which derived its name from Norwegian Twp. West Norwegian St. from 19th Street west was once called Pennsylvania St.

Out near the former State Police barracks will be found three streets with odd names, Mamie's and Louisa's Ave. and Willie, Harry and Arthur Streets. This tract was once known as the Sheaffer tract and the streets were named for the Sheaffer children.

Some of the local streets are presumably named in honor of Presidents. Harrison was probably named for Benj. Harrison; Grant for Ulysses S. Grant; Jefferson for Thos. Jefferson; Jackson St. for Andrew Jackson; Washington, for Geo. Washington; while Union Street was very evidently named about the time of the Civil War when the Union was at stake. It was at one time known as Rhodes' Alley.

Howard Ave., from 4th to 13th St., was Church Alley, because of

the Trinity Episcopal Church being located there. About eighty years ago, John Hewes, who was the father of the late Wm. A. Hewes and great-granduncle to the late E. C. Luther, was asked to take charge of the Richards' Estate or Addition and changed the name of the street to Howard in honor of Howard Richards, one of the owners of the tract.

Minersville St. received its name from the fact that this was once the old road to Minersville. The road from 1600 West Market St., west to the city limits was the Old Sunbury Road.

Mauch Chunk St. secured its name because it was on the road leading to Mauch Chunk. It was once called Schuylkill St. The name is an Indian one meaning "on the mountain" or "bear cave."

Cemetery St. is so named because it is close to the Odd Fellows and Catholic Cemeteries.

Railroad, naturally, was so-called because the railroad was on the street and Coal was one of the earliest streets, thus named when "coal" was uppermost in the minds of all.

Baber St. traces its origin to one of the early inhabitants of Pottsville, Charles Baber, who came here in 1861 from Port Carbon. His residence on Baber St., was originally the office of the Schuylkill Navigation Co. and Mr. Baber came there when he took charge of the Canal. It was once known as East Centre St.

Arch Street received its name from the Philadelphia street of the same name which is natural because in the early days many Phila. residents came here to live and also visited this section by way of the canal.

From George St., on the east to Fourth St. on the west, Arch Street was once known as Callowhill St. This is another Phila. street name but there is a possibility that it was named for a "Callow" family who may have been residents here and lived on the hill. After Callowhill ended at Fourth, the street became known as Lyon St. to the city line at 16th St.

Bannan St., which is in the Third Ward, running west from S. 4th St., to the Catholic Cemetery and located south of Boone St., was named in honor of John Bannan, who removed his residence to Pottsville from Orwigsburg when the county seat was changed. He built the beautiful home known as "Cloud Home" on Sharp Mountain. Miss Martha Bannan, who died a few years ago, was a daughter of Mr. Bannan.

Boone Street received its name from J. Milton Boone, who owned the land around Boone St., in the Third Ward.

Lawton St. was so designated because it was in the Lawton Addition, the Lawtons being mine operators of the early days.

Wynn Street was named because it was in the Wynn Addition which was laid out by Jonathan Wynn.

Farnum Street was in the old John Farnum tract of land.

Steidle Street perpetuates the name of the Steidle family. One of the members kept the Blue Tavern many years ago. Steidle St. connects Norwegian St. and Park Ave., which is named because of Agricultural Park.

Pott Alley is a survival of the Pott Family; Shuman's Alley derives its name from the Shuman family. Burns, Phillips, Russel and Hamilton Streets are also taken from family names.

Nichols St. traces its origin to Francis B. Nichols, who operated a coal mine at St. Clair. In order to ship his coal, he built Nichols Road which afterwards became Nichols St.

Morris St. in Morris Addition was once called Market St. Schuylkill Ave. was probably named for the Schuylkill River, while Vine Street is of Phila. origin.

Anderson St. which is in Young's Landing, was so designated because Jack Anderson was appointed a caretaker of that section of the town.

Some of the numbered streets were, at one time, known by these names: Second St. was once Adams, probably named in honor of John Adams or John Quincy Adams. Fourth St. was Wolcott, from a family name and was also known as Castle or Brooke St. Fifth St. was William or Prospect from Race St., north. Courtland Terrace was Sixth St., and it was known as Spruce from Race St. north. Seventh St., north to Race, was St. John's St. because of St. John's Church; north from Race to Fairview the same street was known as Hill. Eighth St. was Chambers, from a family name and Drift Alley from Race St. north. Ninth St. was Dumont St., also from a family name. It was known as West, from Race St. north.

A large spring, now walled up, gave the name of Spring to Tenth St., and it was also known as Western Alley. The Morris family name was used for the early name of Eleventh St.

Twelfth St. was once Wood; 13th was Clay St., probably named in honor of Henry Clay; 14th St. was Mine. The designation of Wood St. came from the family which owned the Wood Addition and Eyre

St., from a family name also, was the early name of 15th St.

During the Civil War, there was a soldier's camp on 16th St., and, from this, its name was given as Camp St. It was called Camp St. north to Market and from Market on was called State St., probably because Market St. was once part of an old state road.

18th St. was once known as Pine and Marble St.; 19th south was Franklin; 19th north as Chestnut; 20th as Broad.

21st was once known as Logan St., probably of Phila. origin and 23rd St. was Carey, probably from a family name.

Nepolt St. is believed to have been so-called thru a family name. Chas. Nepold (Nepolt) was a saddler and harness maker who had his place of business in 1870 on N. Centre St., just north of Minersville. This is a small street in Jalappa.

Gilpin St., which extends from S. 12th west for a short distance was in the Richards Addition and the name is a family one, as is also that of Speacht, Sillyman, Wolf, Young and Wallace Sts.

Wheeler St. was named in honor of Mr. Wheeler who was at one time a ticket agent for the Reading Co. He built the house on Hill Crest, Greenwood Hill which was formerly occupied by the late Wm. S. Leib.

Clarence Ave. was known as Cuba Row. Abner Kaiser bought the houses and rebuilt them and changed the name of the street to Clarence St. in honor of his son, Clarence Kaiser.

Edwards Ave. on Greenwood Hill derives its name from that of the late S. B. Edwards and Fleet St. from J. W. Fleet. Sanderson St. was also taken from a family name. The Peacock family name is perpetuated in the name of that street.

Tremont St., which is on the east side of town, was probably named for Tremont St. in Boston or from Tremont, in this county, the name meaning "three mountains."

The streets in Jalappa were at one time numbered. First St. became Walnut; Second became Spruce; Third, Pine; Fourth, Oak, and Fifth, Chestnut St.

YORKVILLE

Yorkville functioned as a separate borough for 42 years, becoming a part of the borough of Pottsville in 1907.

Yorkville's history goes back to 1844 when it was laid out as a town plot by Samuel Lewis, surveyor for Carey, Lea and Blanchard, Abraham Hart, the Wood estate and other land owners.

The name came from the York Farm tract, lying within the limits of the town and owned by the New York and Schuylkill Coal Co.

The first lot was sold to the late Edw. O'Connor in 1847. The community was made up of hardy, thrifty and industrious people, principally Germans. They tilled the soil and made of the little community a place of beauty. The town developed rapidly but it remained a part of Norwegian Twp. until June 19, 1865 when it was incorporated as the borough of Yorkville by the Court of Quarter Sessions of Sch. County. One section of the little borough was known as "Hesserstettle."

The first chief burgess was John Scheck, while Andreas Denter, Geo. Bildhauser, Ignatz Gartner, Michael Buehler, and John Yeastedt were the first councilmen.

The first school was erected on the site of the home of Benedict Smith, Sr. The building was of

stone and was used for school purposes while the borough was a part of Norwegian Twp. About 1865, the school was moved to the old building on the lot which is now occupied by the present Yorkville school building. The first teacher was Patrick Flood, who was succeeded by Wm. J. Sigfried, Professors Wells, Desh and Fitzpatrick.

Among the early school directors who served were Albert Yahn, Jr., Jos. Kraft, Wm. G. Deiter, C. J. Ackerman, Benedict J. Smith and Edward Lotz.

The question of annexing Yorkville to Pottsville had been talked of and considered at various times, for it was felt that both boroughs would benefit. There were those who protested vigorously against the proposal and others who viewed it with favor.

On the night of Oct. 12th, 1906, a special meeting of Yorkville Council was held to take action on the West End Sewer and also to make formal application for annexation to Pottsville. The resolution was passed to have the matter come up before the two councilmanic bodies. On the night of Oct. 23rd, the Pottsville Council Committee on Annexation met with the Yorkville committee and consulted on ways and means.

At the meeting of council of Dec. 4th, Council adopted the agreement of consolidation as submitted by the committee, composed of J. H. Eastman, Pres. Wilson, J. L. Kanady, J. H. Nichter, and Jas. Galbraith. Under the agreement the territorial boundaries of Yorkville were to become the boundaries of the Seventh Ward of the Borough of Pottsville, and the question was to be submitted to the voters at a special election in the Spring.

At the election which was held on Feb. 19th, 1907, the consolidation was passed by the voters. In Pottsville, 839 voted for it and 593 against and in Yorkville, 115 for it and 70 against.

On April 16th, 1907, the new council of the consolidated boroughs effected an organization under the charter of the new borough assigned by Governor Stuart on April 3rd, 1907.

K. C. Wilson was elected the President. Under the Act of Assembly it was obligatory upon the council to chose between the treasurers, high constables and auditors of the two boroughs. Yorkville wanted to withdraw but President Wilson ruled that the matter should be settled by vote. S. M. Mortimer was elected treasurer over Joseph Kraft; James McCullough as High Constable over Charles Bentz, and C. S. Fasold, A. A. Moore, J. R. Glover, auditors, over Fred. Weiss, Frances Burns and J. J. Buehler.

The consolidation of the school boards took place on April 24, 1907. The Yorkville officers withdrew and the former organization of the Pottsville Board was maintained. Yorkville had one school building, three teachers and 100 pupils to be taken over. The Yorkville school board was composed of C. F. Lewis, G. C. Ginther, Chas. Yeastedt, G. A. Smith, John Elison and John Stock.

The Pottsville School Board consisted of: B. J. Smith and C. F. Muehlhof, 1st ward; R. A. Reid, Frank Pershing and Geo. W. Glenn, 2nd ward; Pres. T. W. Swalm, Francis Critz and E. C. Faust, 3rd ward; P. K. Filbert, G. F. Morgan and W. F. Sterner, 4th ward; W. F. Scheerer, T. S. Stephens and R. A. Smith, 5th ward; Geo. R. Aikman, Reese Thomas, John Reid, F. W. Leib and Philip Krieg, 6th ward.

Good Samaritan Hospital Started 1921

(From "Republican"-Morning Paper," October 31, 1933)

By JOHN A. McFARLAND
(President A. C. Milliken Hospital
from 1924 to 1929)

"The Good Samaritan Hospital will on Wednesday, Nov. 1st, hold its annual Donation Day..." so begins a news item in the "Republican" of today, Oct. 31st, 1933.

This presents a very good opportunity for one to review the history of the present Good Samaritan Hospital which is now twelve years old.

This hospital is an outgrowth of a movement for a new hospital started in 1920 by physicians in the county who felt that a change in policy in hospital management would be of benefit to physicians and patients alike.

Accordingly on the evening of Aug. 20, 1920, a number of physicians held a meeting at which time steps were taken for the promotion of a new hospital for Pottsville. An organization meeting was called for the following Monday night, August 23rd.

It was then proposed that the hospital, to be known as the A. C. Milliken Hospital, should be located on the Milliken property. Dr. F. W. Moyer was named as temporary chairman. The physicians who attended the meeting were: Drs. G. O. O. Santee, Cressona; L. M. Shultz, Port Carbon; L. D. Heim, Schuylkill Haven; N. H. Stein, Middleport; F. W. Boyer, C. V. Wadlinger, Henry Dir-schedl, O. J. Carlin, W. A. Burke,

John G. Kramer, George H. Boone, H. H. Stewart, C. D. Miller, P. H. O'Hara, L. T. Kennedy, J. G. Streigel, Pottsville; E. W. Keith, Minersville, and Robert Weaver, St. Clair.

The formal organization meeting took place on Aug. 27th, 1920, at which time Dr. W. F. Doyle was elected President; Dr. F. W. Boyer, Vice-President; Dr. O. J. Carlin, Secretary, and Dr. J. G. Streigel, Treasurer. Mrs. O. J. Carlin was elected chairman of the Women's Auxiliary, which was to be organized. Although the institution was to be a private one, patients were to be admitted under the payment of the ward funds without any responsibility as to physician's fees.

On Aug. 31st, thirty-two physicians met at the home of Dr. Doyle with Lawyers Streigel and Kramer and devised plans to secure a class A, no profit charter. Mrs. J. B. Cullum and Mrs. A. C. Milliken offered to equip the kitchen and the dining room of the new hospital and Wm. Wright of Heckscherville was made known as the first public contributor.

Mrs. Carlin reported that over 300 women of the town had signified their intention of joining the Auxiliary and the goal was to be made one thousand.

An enthusiastic meeting of the Women's Auxiliary was held at the Carlin home on Sept. 14th, 1920, at which time Dr. Mary Kingsbury and C. P. Hoffman gave short talks on the purpose of the new hospital. The following Auxiliary officers were elected: Pres., Mrs. J. B. Cullum; Vice Pres., Mrs. H. O. Bechtel, Pottsville, Mrs. Sarah Ball, of Minersville,

and Mrs. O. J. Carlin and Mrs. Robert Braun, the Publicity Committee.

The Kehler property on Mauch Chunk St. was leased in order that a temporary hospital could be opened, while the Milliken home was being remodeled. Accordingly, 30 beds were equipped in the Kehler property and the institution prepared for opening on Oct. 1st, 1920.

Sept. 17th at a meeting of the new hospital auxiliary, it was decided to establish two free wards, and open auxiliary chapters in surrounding towns. A drive for \$100,000 for the hospital was to be started on Sept. 27th and the women pledged their support. It had already been decided that the institution was to be conducted on a non-profit basis and at the end of the year, any money remaining after all expenses were paid, was to be returned to the hospital treasury. The doctors interested started the drive with a \$6,000 subscription.

The following auxiliary committees were named: Committee on By-Laws, Mrs. F. W. Doyle, Chairman, Mrs. Robert Braun and Mrs. E. D. Smith; Committee to Purchase Linens, Mrs. A. W. Schalek, Chairman, Mrs. Jas. A. Medlar, Mrs. J. Refowich, Mrs. J. H. Zerbey, Jr., Mrs. John Streigel, Mrs. Wm. Thompson and Miss Anna Rinn.

Committee for Caring for Linens, Mrs. Wm. Baber, Chairman, Miss Marcia Fox, Miss Sue Boone, Mrs. Wm. Kramer, Miss Main Stichter, Miss Holstein.

Committee on Sewing and Meeting Room, Miss A. Reilley, Chairman, Mrs. Harry Weitzel, Mrs. O. L. Underwood, and Mrs. John Raring.

Committee on Supplies, Mrs. J. Ulmer, Chairman, Mrs. J. Boltz, Mrs. George Boone, Mrs. George Bright, and Mrs. Boger.

Committee in Charge of Drive for Funds, Mrs. O. J. Carlin, Chairman,

Mrs. Robert Braun, Mrs. Ruth Snyder Sapper and Miss Lottie Miller.

When the drive for funds was begun, there was a pleasing display of interest throughout the county. A number of high school girls volunteered their services at typing the campaign literature. These girls were: Mary Terril, Marian Shaw, Sara Kramer, Ruth Williams, Mildred Bowers, Naomi Kleckner, Marie Pickel, Thelma Jeffries, H. Meikrantz, Marie Portland, Marion Hopkins, Catherine Potter, Virginia Kerns, Sara Troutman and Elsie James. Mrs. J. B. Cullum also announced that she would contribute all the linen for the new institution.

The doctors bore all the expenses of the campaign and the entire amount collected during the drive went directly into the hospital treasury. Pres. Jacob Gellert, Thos. Jones, and James Canfield took over the active work of the campaign.

October 29th, 1920, Miss Anna Rinn was appointed to be superintendent at the new hospital as soon as it was ready to be opened.

The organization meeting was held on the evening of Dec. 14th, 1920. Dr. W. F. Doyle was elected President; Gordon Nagle, Cressona, Vice Pres.; Dr. A. S. Ryland, Secretary, and Jacob Gellert, Treasurer.

Some changes still remained to be made in the hospital building and the opening was delayed until January 1st, 1921. At a meeting of the Board of Managers on Dec. 28th, 1920, the purchase of the Kehler property in which the hospital was located, was discussed. The appointments of the staff for the month of January, for the first month of the hospital were made as follows: Surgical, Dr. O. J. Carlin; Alternate, J. G. Streigel; Medical, Dr. Geo. H. Boone; Alternate, Dr. J. G. Kramer; Anesthetist and Pathologist, Dr. Chas. V. Hogan.

The hospital was finally thrown open to the public on Thursday, Jan. 6th, 1921 at which time there were hundreds of visitors. On the first floor were the men's and women's wards; in the rear, the children's ward was in process of being completed. On the second floor was the splendidly equipped operating room. Here also were found the private rooms furnished by local people including Mrs. Riollay Lee, in memory of her son, John, the Loyal Order of Moose and the Knights of Columbus.

The third floor was equipped for the nurses and other employes who lived at the hospital. To the rear of the first floor was the kitchen and in the basement, the laundry. The main entrance of the hospital was on Mauch Chunk St., with the side entrance to be used for an ambulance entrance.

The first patient was Barney Fleva, aged 11, of Minersville, who was brought in the night of January 6th, with appendicitis. He was operated upon the next morning and was therefore the first one to be operated upon in the hospital. As the nurses in the operating room had not yet assumed their duties, Miss Rinn, the Superintendent, Miss McCord, Operating Nurse, Mrs. Fred Rabenau and Mrs. E. W. Keith, of Minersville, the latter two also being professional nurses, assisted in the operation.

A Junior Hospital Auxiliary was also organized and on Feb. 7th, we find that they had 71 members and were working for more. Committees were appointed to look after the various activities of the Juniors. Mrs. Jesse Steidle was appointed to look after the Baby Clothes Committee, Miss Melba Shoenberger was chairman of the Fruit Committee; Miss Ada Mould of the Sunday Afternoon Committee, and Mrs. Geo. M. Keiser, of the Gift Committee.

Feb. 17th, 1921, the doctors interested in the new hospital met at Dr.

Doyle's office and formed the Physicians and Surgeons Asso. of the new hospital. The officers elected were: Dr. G. O. O. Santee, Pres.; Vice-Pres., Dr. O. J. Carlin; Treas., J. G. Kramer, and Secy., C. V. Hogan.

On Tuesday evening, Oct. 4th, the Board of Managers and the Women's Auxiliary and the Junior Auxiliary met together for the purpose of going over the work up to Oct. 1st, 1921. It was found that from Jan. 6th, 1920 to Oct. 1st, 1921, 535 patients were admitted, 127 major operations and 230 minor operations were performed.

Five members of the Board of Managers were re-elected. The Board of Managers consisted of the following: Mrs. J. B. Cullum, Mrs. Sarah Ball, of Minersville, Mrs. James Canfield, Miss Anna Boyer, Miss Annie Reilly, Mrs. A. W. Schalck, Mrs. Frank Yuengling, Mrs. Martha Lee Moore, Mrs. W. F. Doyle, Mrs. H. O. Bechtel, Mrs. Ruth Snyder Sapper, Mrs. O. J. Carlin, Mrs. G. H. Boone, Mrs. J. G. Kramer, Mrs. G. O. O. Santee, Mrs. Gordon Nagle, Mrs. Robert Braun, Mrs. Jacob Fox, Mrs. Julian Pilgram, Mrs. J. H. Zerbey, Jr., Mrs. Wm. H. Thompson, Mrs. P. H. O'Hara, Mrs. L. D. Heim, Mrs. M. D. Wadlinger, Mrs. John Raring, Mrs. H. F. Hess, of Pinegrove.

The first anniversary of the new hospital showed that there had been 731 admissions, 697 operations and 63 births.

At the annual meeting on April 11, 1923, the announcement was made that application would be made to the court to have the name of the hospital changed to the Anthracite Hospital and that there would also be a slight change in the constitution and by-laws. Thereafter, the board of managers was to consist of ten doctors and ten laymen with a president who may be either a doctor or a layman.

By 1925, the Anthracite Hospital as it became generally known had outgrown its quarters and although many plans for enlargement had been suggested, they were not deemed practicable. In the meantime, on July 16th, 1923, Dr. Robert M. Biddle had closed a deal by which he purchased the home of Mrs. Annette Kaercher at Tremont and E. Norwegian Sts., for the purpose of opening a private hospital there with his father, the late Dr. J. C. Biddle.

Plans for building a new house on the hospital grounds and of adding an addition to the Kaercher Home, were delayed when Dr. J. C. Biddle's health failed and he died March 19, 1924. Without the aid of his famous father, Dr. Biddle did not feel that he could carry out the enterprise, and the hospital was at a standstill.

In March 1925, a committee was appointed by the Anthracite Board of Managers to negotiate for the purchase of the Biddle Hospital grounds and at a meeting of the Board on June 11, 1925, it was unanimously decided to buy the hospital.

However, there was a delay in carrying out the plans, and it was not until 1929 that the new hospital question was finally settled.

On May 4th, 1929, Father Felix Fink of Brockton took an option on the Biddle Hospital grounds, for a proposed new hospital and paid the option money to Atty. Haag, representing the Hause estate, the owners of the Biddle site.

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the A. C. Milliken Hospital on May 14th, 1929, the question of adequate facilities for the hospital was taken up and it was deemed essential that some steps be taken at once to enable the hospital to continue its development.

The present location of the hospital was not satisfactory and yet it was not thought that there was need of

another hospital so the Board of Managers decided that the best interests of the people could be served by consolidation with the proposed new hospital.

At ten o'clock on the morning of July 5th, 1929, at a meeting of the stockholders and trustees of the A. C. Milliken or Anthracite Hospital, the formal transfer of the real estate and hospital equipment free of all debt and incumbrances was made in favor of Cardinal Dougherty, who placed the institution in the hands of the Sisters of the Sacred Heart, the Sisters who had brought the Sacred Heart Hospital at Allentown to such a high standard.

The Board of Managers at the time of the transfer consisted of: J. A. McFarland, President; J. H. Zerbey, Jr., Vice President; Dr. J. G. Streigel, Treasurer; Miss Margaret Shovlin, Secretary; Dr. C. V. Wadlinger, Dr. O. J. Carlin, Dr. Geo. F. Bretz, Dr. J. G. Kramer, Dr. Mary B. Kingsbury, Dr. L. D. Heim, Dr. J. A. Carroll, Dr. N. H. Stein, Dr. J. T. Ryan, Dr. W. F. Doyle, Dr. R. M. Biddle, Dr. J. L. Conrad, Dr. J. F. Nash and J. H. Zerbey. Dr. Doyle had been President of the Board up until 1924 when Mr. McFarland succeeded him.

Miss Anna Rinn was retained as assistant superintendent and Miss Margaret Shovlin as secretary and accountant.

On August 29th, 1929, the name of the hospital was unofficially changed to "The Good Samaritan Hospital." The hospital is an open one, is non-sectarian and is still operating under the A. C. Milliken Hospital Charter.

The patients were removed to the new hospital on June 4th, 1930 and Dr. L. D. Heim of Sch. Haven, performed the first operation when he and Dr. Biddle operated upon Mrs. Carl Haller of Auburn for appendicitis. Mrs. Allen M. Bubeck of Sch. Haven was the first patient admitted.

The formal dedication of the Good Samaritan Hospital took place on June 15th, 1930 when Cardinal Dougherty was here for the occasion. Dr. E. E. Shifferstine, director of State Hospitals of Penna. and superintendent of the Coaldale State Hospital was the main speaker. The Nurses' Home to the rear of the hospital was also blessed at this time.

The hospital, throughout its entire history, has owed much of its success to the loyal support of its auxiliary workers. There are two societies connected with the institution, the Women's Auxiliary, which is the original body dating back to the founding of the hospital, and the Good Samaritan Guild, which has taken the place of the former Junior Hospital Auxiliary.

The officers of the Women's Auxiliary are as follows: President, Mrs. H. O. Bechtel; Secretary, Mrs. Henry Dirschedl; Treasurer, Mrs. William Doyle and Corresponding Secretary, Miss Annie Reilly.

The first definite steps toward organizing the Good Samaritan Guild were taken on Feb. 16th, 1933, with Miss Nellie Rinn being the founder

of the movement. A meeting was held on Feb. 19, 1933 at which the formal organization took place and the officers were elected.

The officers of the Guild are as follows: President, Miss Dolores A. Post; Vice Pres., Miss Emily Elison; Secretary, Miss Mary Reilly, and Treasurer, Miss Mary Mootz.

The hospital has fifty beds, forty for adults and ten in the nursery for children. During the past three years, there have been 2280 operations and 294 births at the institution. Much charity work has been done, especially during the time of depression, there having been 1580 free days for charity patients within the past three months alone, this being about the usual three months average.

The hospital is under the supervision of the Missionary Workers of the Sacred Heart, whose Mother House is at Reading.

The Board of Managers at the present time consists of the Rev. Felix Fink, President; Daniel Slattery, of New Phila., Secretary; M. M. Burke, Shenandoah, D. J. Boyle, of Tamaqua and I. Rubinsky, of Pottsville.



Saint Clair Honors John Siney

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper"*, November 1, 1933)

On November 1, 1888, the borough of St. Clair took on a holiday attire when all of the mines in that section closed down and the schools were closed for the day. Special trains were run into the borough, bringing large delegations of visitors for the occasion which was the unveiling of the monument to the memory of John Siney, organizer of the Workmen's Benevolent Association and the first actual labor leader the county had.

The affair had been planned as simply a local one but the town had visitors from every coal mining town of prominence in the region.

The monument located in St. Mary's cemetery west of St. Clair and on the road to Wadesville is one to the memory of a man who almost single handed fostered the flame of unionism, waged two successful battles with the then all powerful coal operators and broke down under the strain of a defeat which wiped out all his previous labors.

Siney died at a time when the labor situation in the county was one of disruption and heartbreaking efforts to maintain an organization but his courage and ability is recognized in the fact that the United Mine Workers of America, with a membership of 40,000 in Schuylkill and Northumberland county has stopped on more than one occasion to pay him tribute as one of the pioneers of the labor movement.

Daniel Duffy, then clerk of the courts of Schuylkill county, headed the committee composed of Ivor D. Jones, Minersville, D. D. Williams,

Wm. Penn; J. J. McCarthy, Mahanoy City and Michael Ryan of St. Clair, which obtained the funds for the monument, choosing the design and purchasing a new lot in the cemetery. had the remains of Mr. Siney removed to the new location and the monument erected over his body.

Mr. Duffy presented the monument after a parade in which practically all of St. Clair participated. The Hon. John Parker, Mahanoy City editor, made the speech of acceptance.

Siney was born in Burnos, Queens County, Ireland, in 1831, and made his appearance in St. Clair in 1863. Four years later the anthracite collieries decided to make a cut of ten per cent. in the wages of the miners and the George W. Johns colliery at St. Clair was the colliery picked to make the attempt, according to the newspaper reports.

The effort was made in January and for six weeks the miners remained out on strike. Siney was one of the most influential of the leaders in holding the men together and keeping them from returning to work. Walker's Hall, at St. Clair, which is still standing was the headquarters for the miners and they checked in, morning, noon and night in order that they could not return to work without being detected in the act. 425 men returned to the mine after the victory had been won, but Siney had a permanent organization of 13 men.

Application was made to Judge Lin Bartholomew of the Schuylkill

county courts for a charter but the court ruled that under the laws of the state a charter could not be granted a labor organization. The court, however, suggested to Mr. Siney that a Benevolent Association be formed.

Siney immediately started the Workmen's Benevolent Association with 17 members and he became its first president.

In the year 1868, the first agitation for an eight hour day—later one of the first victories of John Mitchell, U. M. W. of A.—took place and Siney led the workmen into the first conference with the Anthracite Board of Trade in the autumn of that year.

The miners won a ten per cent. increase in wages but lost the fight for eight hours under an agreement known as the Gowen compromise, the Reading Company head, George B. Gowen arranging the truce.

The first actual wage agreement followed with the first mine scale on record. It was an agreement that the mine wage level would obtain at a basic selling price of \$3.00 per ton at Port Carbon with a 33 per cent. increase for the miners for each dollar of an increase in the price of coal.

One of the most prosperous years of the early mining trade followed but it came to an end in 1871 when the Scranton operators broke the agreement and a lockout from April to October resulted in \$2.50 being fixed as the basic rate.

Siney, in the meantime, had become head of the Miners National Association and he remained head of that organization until the strike of 1875, known as the big strike, occurred.

This also lasted from April to August and ended in a complete victory for the operators. With it came the collapse of the Workmen's Benev-

olent Association and Siney never recovered from the blow and the terrific strain he had undergone. He died on April 16, 1878, at the age of 49 years.

The Amalgamated Association later came into being and it was District 8 of this organization also a forerunner of the U. M. W. of A. that fostered the movement for the monument.

Among the individuals who contributed to the monument fund were the following: Daniel Duffy, Michael Hillan, Michael Ryan, Seth Orme, Thos. Noon, John J. Carter, Newton Pilling, Wm. Carter, John Dawson, John Hoskins, W. J. McCarthy, Pilot Orme, John Ryan, George Farne, James Thomas, Patrick Malia, Sr., Alfred Seeley, Michael Manion, John Burke, Michael Cashman, Michael Connors, John Duffy, Frank Arnout, John Quigley, Luke Dean, Michael Murry, Jr., Andrew Patrick, Thomas Ryan, John Fagan, John Gleno, John Rudd, Jas. Blacker, Jas. Quirk, Jr., Jas. Murry, Michael Sullivan, John Holden, John J. Manion, Jas. J. Kirk, Richard Cashman, Michael Mitchell, Michael Glenn, Roderick Burns, Maurice Oestrich, Jas. Burns, John Fox, Patrick J. Malia, Jr., Thos. Kirk, Jos. Gannon, all of St. Clair.

Hon. C. N. Brumm, Jos. H. Levan, Ivor D. Jones, Minersville; John T. Shoener, Orwigsburg; Dennis Mahoney, New Castle; D. D. Williams, Thos. Morgan, Wm. Morgan, John Sargent, Wm. Penn; John M. Thomas Reinhart Wagner, Robert Hodgett, C. B. Phillips, W. A. Kalbach, A. S. Simmons, Robert Curran, W. S. Sanner, John Wachter, A. W. Houtz, Thos. Burke, J. J. Kehler, John S. Thomas, Jas. Thomas, Patrick McLaughlin, P. J. Stevens, Abraham Taylor, Daniel Hoffman, Bernard Leddy, T. J. Pierce, G. W. Sabold,

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Daniel Keifer, Alex Scott, Harry E. Evans, Wm H. Davis, Gerald McKernan, Jacob Pauley, Samuel Wynn, all of Frackville.

V. P. Brennan, A. Prince, B. J. Smith, Jas. W. Ryon, Hiram Moyer, J. B. Hoellman of Pottsville; John J. Delaney, of Heckscherville; Jas. J. Bowes, Girardville; Hon. John Parker, Richard Northey, John J.

McCarthy, Philip Schmidt, C. W. Budwash, John W. Parker, T. J. Edwards, John Stober, Philip Kensher, C. Brownmiller, N. M. Wadlinger, J. A. Swalm, T. T. Jones, R. T. Lewis, Nathan Shoener and J. P. Suck, of Mahanoy City.

John Green, St. Nicholas; John Murphy, Locust Dale; Anthony O'Donnell, Wadesville.



Children's Home Opened In 1873

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper"*, November 2, 1933)

A news item in the "Republican" of Nov. 2nd, 1892 told of Potato Day being observed for the Children's Home.

This recalled to mind that the Donation Day—as it has now come to be more generally known—had been inaugurated by the Benevolent Association, which is in charge of the Home, many years ago.

What an interesting history that Association has had! It started shortly after the close of the Civil War in answer to an acute need for help by many families who had felt the brunt of the depression following the war. The Pottsville Benevolent Association was organized on Oct. 16, 1867 and was incorporated on June 10, 1870. Its first President was the late Wm. L. Whitney.

In order that no part of the town might be neglected, ten districts were formed with a supervisor over each district whose duty it was to consider the problem of how best to relieve the physical and moral wants of the needy in that district. Many little children were found with unworthy parents and others without any parents at all. This led the institution to extend its activities by providing for the destitute children in a home.

On May 24th, 1872, a committee was appointed to inquire into the feasibility of such a measure; on March 7th, 1873, the constitution was presented and approved; on April 4, 1873, the constitution was adopted and on May 24th, 1873, the first child was admitted to the new home.

In order that the institution should be free from all sectarian influence representatives were appointed from the different churches of the town and a committee of 21 persons was formed to take charge of that phase of the work of the Benevolent Association. The Board was composed of J. A. M. Passmore, Pres.; Solomon Foster, B. Haywood, Levi Huber, Mrs. Jas. Lanigan, Mrs. M. B. Garretson, Mrs. T. F. Reilly, Wm. L. Whitney, R. C. Green, Rev. E. Oppenheim, Mrs. Charles Bushar, Jas. W. Nagle, Mrs. R. R. Morris, Mrs. J. P. Stein, R. F. Weaver, Milton Boone, Dr. F. W. Boyer, John W. Bickel, Mrs. C. C. Baird, Mrs. Harry Heebner and Mrs. Emma St. C. Whitney.

The object of the movement was to afford a home, food, schooling and clothing for destitute, neglected and friendless children and to place them with respectable families at a suitable age so that they might learn a useful trade or occupation. It was to be nonsectarian and no color line was to be drawn. One of the strongest points from the very beginning was that the Board believed that the support of the Home should be by voluntary contributions, rather than from forcing people to contribute.

Naturally, the first consideration was to find a suitable site for the home. Chas. Baber offered a site near the old Jackson's rope walk which was in the rear of the present Chas. Baber Cemetery. Some time prior to 1873, an Agricultural Association had been formed and had erected in what came to be known as

Agricultural Park, a two story frame building which was to be used as a hotel. It was called the Park Hotel but the plans of the Association did not materialize and the hotel was unoccupied. Since there were no funds available for building, this location was found to be ideal, so the Board of Managers leased the hotel and during the intervening fifty-five years up until the new home was built, the owners of the property permitted the Home to occupy this building without compensation. The owners were Lawrence Whitney, Conrad Seltzer, Henry Guiterman, Theo. Garretson, Mary Garretson, F. G. Yuengling, F. D. Yuengling, Chas. Baber, Andrew Robertson, Mrs. Phoebe Clemens, Geo. W. Robertson, Andrew Robertson, Jr., John Phillips and P. W. Sheaffer.

Dr. F. W. Boyer was the first physician and Mrs. A. Bigelow, the first matron. At the first report of the Association given on October 11, 1873, it was found that fifteen children were finding shelter and comfort within the walls of the home. A year later, the report showed that thirty-one children had been cared for and that six had been placed in desirable private families.

At first, children from Pottsville only were accepted but as the need grew for accommodation for children from other towns of the county, the scope of the Association was enlarged and since that time, children from other towns, these sent there by the County Poor Directors who are not allowed to keep children in the Almshouse, wards of the Juvenile Court and some who are suggested by the various welfare organizations have been given shelter.

The Home has also proven a blessing to some families when either of the parents has died and the other wishes to have some place in which to care for the children until a fam-

ily home can be re-established.

But, although the Hotel seemed very commodious at first, the need for larger quarters was felt as a number of children to be accommodated grew larger. So, the Board of Managers felt that other arrangements should be made and a movement for a new home was started in 1915. Miss Webb was then the matron. The late James Muir had already willed \$22,000 to the Home and this served as a nucleus for the fund.

After the influenza epidemic in 1918, there was imperative need for a home for many children in the county were left as orphans and there were about forty children which had to be cared for at the already badly overcrowded Home. For sometime after the epidemic, Miss Josephine Penn (now Mrs. Jesse Steidle) was in charge of the influenza orphans at the Milliken Home but after this emergency home was closed, the children had to be taken to the Mechanicsville Home.

Plans were considered for enlarging the Home. The owners of the Agricultural Park gave to the Benevolent Association five acres of land in the southwest corner of the park upon which a new home was to be constructed. Five undivided sevenths, on Dec. 24, 1918 were deeded to the Home Association by E. Louise Sheaffer, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur W. Sheaffer, Henry Sheaffer, Mr. and Mrs. Lesley Sheaffer and Clinton W. Sheaffer and the other two undivided sevenths, on Jan. 18, 1919, were deeded to the Home by Mr. and Mrs. Andrew W. Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Robertson and Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Clemens.

On June 11, 1928, a dinner was held at the Necho Allen at which time the drive for funds for inaugurated. Teams were made up and

until June 16th, pledges were sought. with subscriptions being received amounting to \$151,783, as announcement was made on June 19. However, of that amount, only \$130,000 has been paid by those who made the pledges.

After competitive bidding, the contract for the home proper and the assembly hall for the school and public gatherings was awarded to the late Gordon Nagle. The home cost \$140,000 and other improvements and changes, amounted to \$13,000. It was necessary to put in a modern drainage system and the Pottsville Water Co., built a new line at their own expense to supply the proper pressure for the water.

After the cornerstone laying on Oct. 22, 1928, the building continued and on March 28th, 1929, the children moved into their new and beautiful home. One of the playrooms was made possible thru a contribution of J. H. Zerbey and the "Pottsville Republican."

The children are taught from the first to the fourth grade in the school at the Home, and they attend the various churches of the town.

A custom was inaugurated many years ago of having Donation Day in the public schools of the town once a year and the donations received aid in providing the food for the children during the year. Voluntary contributions are also encouraged at all times. The children are not forgotten by the different town organizations and at Christmas time, they are well taken care of with Christmas dinner and gifts of all descriptions. During the year, they are frequently the guests of the service clubs and churches, lodges at their social affairs and, when a circus comes to town, they are always among the invited guests.

Once a year, "Open House" is held at the Home, at which tea is served by the Womens Auxiliary and the children provide the program for their guests.

The annual picnic is also always an event. This is their day of days. For many years, the picnic was held right on the grounds but in recent years, the children have been taken to the parks in the vicinity where they enjoy a day of fun and a picnic luncheon.

It is gratifying to note that all of the children who have been cared for at the home, have become good citizens of the community and a record is kept by the Board of Managers showing just where their former proteges are and what they are doing.

There are now 47 children at the Home, 24 boys and 23 girls.

The present superintendent is Mrs. Ethel Wagstaff; Miss Gertrude Williams, the boys' matron and Miss Henrietta Behrens, the girls' matron. Miss Mary Scott is the school teacher.

In the sixty years of its existence, the board of managers has only had seven presidents:—J. A. M. Passmore, Wm L. Whitney, P. W. Sheaffer, Gen. J. K. Sigfried, (father-in-law of J. H. Zerbey), Benj. F. Patterson, Rev. J. H. Umbenhen and W. K. Woodbury.

The present board of managers is as follows: Pres. W. K. Woodbury; Vice-Pres., Clinton W. Sheaffer; Treas. Arthur W. Sheaffer; Recording Secy. U. H. Nuss; Mrs. Mary C. Thurlow, Mrs. John Hock, Mrs. Geo. W. Ryon, Jr., Mrs. C. E. Alter, Mrs. B. H. Hay, Mrs. Louis F. Ulmer, Mrs. E. L. Herndon, Miss Lucy Helms, Rev. W. P. Riggs, Thos. J. Deibert, H. C. Schertle, G. E. Gangloff, A. W. Sheaffer, C. S. Sheaffer and H. I. Silliman. The late U. H. Nuss was a member at the time of his death.

Fire Trustees Organized 46 Years

(From "Republican" "Morning Paper," November 3, 1933)

For many years, it has been the custom of the Fire Trustees to hold their regular meeting on the first Friday in the month and for this reason, it is fitting that the history of the organization be used on this date.

The Board of Fire Trustees and the Firemen's Relief Trust Asso., are the executive bodies of the Pottsville Fire Department. The former is the older of the two being organized September 6th, 1877, and later reorganized on March 4th, 1898. The Relief Association was granted a charter on November 25th, 1898 but had been operating previous to that from the time it was organized on March 10th, 1895.

Meetings are held once each month except during the months of June, July, August and September, when all business is adjourned for the summer months. There are 21 members of both bodies with each of the seven fire companies in the City being represented by three delegates who are elected for periods of three years. Both the Board of Trustees and the Relief Asso. meet jointly with the trustees going into session first followed immediately by the meeting of the Relief Asso.

All matters pertaining to the operation of the Pottsville Fire Department are presented to the Board of Trustees for their action and discussion and on many occasions many vital problems are solved for the good of the department in general. Without the Board of Trustees and the Relief Asso. it is doubtful whether

or not the Pottsville Fire Department would have been able to operate as successfully as it has over a period of more than fifty years.

For over a period of thirty-five years John J. Johnson, member of the Good Intent Fire Co., has presided at all meetings as president of the Board of Trustees. He has been a member of that body for more than 40 years and is about the oldest member. James DeNapoli, of the Phoenix Hook & Ladder Co., is secretary, he having succeeded the late John Sullivan, another member of the Phoenix, who in turn succeeded the late Joseph Powers, also a Phoenix member.

The Board of Fire Trustees in every sense of the word are for the good of the Pottsville Fire Department and for the welfare of every fireman in the city. His interests are the interests of the trustees and everything is done for the comfort and protection of the firemen. Legislative problems of all descriptions are presented throughout the year for the good of the department and in almost every case the trustees have been able to solve these problems to the satisfaction of all concerned.

As stated in the beginning of this story the Board of Fire Trustees was organized as early as 1877 with a reorganization taking place seven years later. At that time the by-laws or constitution of the Fire Department were framed, setting forth rules and regulations for its operation. The term of office of each trustee is for a period of three years. One new

member is elected by each company in December of each year at the time the fire police are appointed or elected. No trustee is admitted into the department unless he is duly qualified upon the presentation of a certificate from his respective company. The Board of Fire Trustees organize annually at the first stated meeting in January on the first Friday night of the month. At that time a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer are named. At the present time John Johnson, President; William L. Stevenson, Vice-President; William L. Stevenson, Treasurer, and James DeNapoli, Secretary, are the officers.

On the membership roster in addition to the names of the regular elected delegates will be found the names of the fire chief and his two assistants who are elected members of the organization by a popular vote. This vote is represented by the active members of the fire department and the said election is conducted by an election board designated by the Board of Fire Trustees.

The list of Fire Trustees is as follows: American Hose—William L. Stevenson, John Schoeneman, Albert Plappert; Good Intent—Frank W. Leib, William S. Bray, John J. Johnson; Good Will—James A. Lynaugh, William A. Stephenson, John F. Hanney; Phoenix—James DeNapoli, Henry O'Donnell, Vincent Kearns; West End—A. J. Downey, Williard LeVan, Leon Weiner; Humane—Aaron Moore, J. Harry Leib, Charles Klare; Yorkville—Robert A. Knecht, George W. Houser, George Smerko.

For the fifty odd years that the Board of Fire Trustees has been operating as the executive body of the fire department there has been no change in the order of business or the principals of the organization. It stands at all times 100 percent. for the good of the fire department and

the firemen who represent it. At this time as members of the board will be found a few of the old timers who became members not many years after its organization. There is John Johnson, of the Good Intent, William L. Stevenson and John Schoeneman, of the American Hose, Charles Klare, Harry Leib and Aaron Moore, of the Humane, Frank Leib, of the Good Intent, James Lynaugh and John Hanney of the Good Will and Bob Knecht, of the Yorkville. President Johnson has been a member for more than 40 years and for thirty years has served as the chief executive of the organization.

Up until the year 1907, the Board of Fire Trustees was represented by 18 members due to the fact that there were but six companies that represented the fire department. On October 4th of that year, the Yorkville Fire Company, then operating under the Yorkville Borough Government, requested to be admitted as a member of the Pottsville Fire Department. It had been declared by the Board of Fire Trustees that a fire company in the Seventh Ward was a necessity. The Pottsville Borough Council admitted Yorkville February 7th, 1908, as a seventh unit of the Pottsville Fire Department. It was then that the Board of Fire Trustees became an organization of 21 members.

June 15, 1909, marked a discussion between the Board of Fire Trustees and the Borough Council as to the appropriations and the question of a paid fire department and for a time the question was the subject for heated arguments that at one time caused the entire department to refuse to answer alarms of fire until the appropriations that had been taken away were restored. The fire department in general practically went out of service entirely on June 16th of that year and did not return to

duty until the Borough Council rescinded its action and restored the full appropriations with the exception of the time that the companies were out of service as a protest.

The Insurance Rate

Besides looking after the welfare of the firemen and the successful operation of the fire department in general the Board of Fire Trustees do not overlook the citizens of Pottsville and the property owner. The insurance rates, water supply, civil service regulations are just a few of the important topics that are discussed in general at the meetings. Following a survey of conditions here a few years ago by the National Underwriters Asso., it was asserted by the majority of members of the Board of Fire Trustees that if the insurance rates were made proportionately in relation to the amount and efficiency of the city fire equipment and the ability of the firemen of Pottsville and not left to the opinions of the underwriters that Pottsville should have as low rates as any other city in the entire United States.

It was shortly after the big Miehle fire in 1914 that the National Underwriters Asso., made a recommendation asking that the City of Pottsville increase the number of fire alarm boxes. Since that time the Board of Fire Trustees in recommendations to City Council has succeeded in increasing the number of boxes to meet the demand so that today there are almost 100 fire alarm boxes located in all sections of the city. The water supply at the time of fire was a source of discussion for a few years but through the efforts of the trustees and the City Council, this problem is now corrected and the water supply today is 100 per cent. There are about 215 fire hydrants located conveniently in all sections

of the city with a yearly rental of \$40 per hydrant being paid by City Council to the Pottsville Water Co., or an approximate cost of \$8,500 per year for water service for fire protection.

The Fire Police

The Fire Police Organization which has a membership of 70 members is under the direct jurisdiction of the Board of Fire Trustees. Each year in November, these members are elected as fire police by their respective fire companies with each company naming ten of its members for duty. They are given the oath of office by the fire chief, after being accepted as members of the department by the Board of Fire Trustees. All the activities of the police are governed by the Board of Fire Trustees which body outlines their duty and power. At times of fire they are in complete charge of policing the area in which the fire occurs and patrol the fire lines until such time that the fire chief is satisfied that all danger has passed.

The Relief Association

The Board of Fire Trustees in 1895 took up the question of relief for firemen who met with injury or death during the time of fighting fires. The trustees as well as the borough council at that time believed that some financial protection should be given the firemen in the event of injury or death. The problem of organizing a relief association was one that had to be given careful thought and study but after much discussion the Firemen's Relief Trust Association was organized March 10, 1895, agreeable to the provisions of the Act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania approved April 29, 1874. The object of the corporation was to receive and hold property, real and personal, to be derived from legacies, bequests and

other sources, for the relief, support, and burial of its members who may be crippled or killed or who may be prevented from attending to their usual occupation or calling on account of chronic ailment or permanent injury caused through exposure or accident while doing duty as a public fire fighter and for the pensioning of the widows, orphans, or dependent parents or members who may be killed or who may die from injuries received while in the discharge of their duty as firemen.

The charter of the Firemen's Relief and Trust Association was granted November 25, 1898. The corporation is perpetual and its business in general is transacted here in Pottsville.

Each one of the local fire companies subscribed \$10 towards the initial fund. This was practically the start of a wealthy organization for today the Pottsville Firemen's Relief Trust Asso., has available more than \$75,000 which has been accumulated over a period of thirty odd years from the meagre \$70 that was subscribed by the fire companies.

The relief association is represented by the same members who represent the Board of Fire Trustees. The meeting is held jointly with that of the trustees. J. Harry Leib, of the Humane Fire Company, is the president, with George Houser, of the Yorkville Fire Co., the vice-president. John Schoeneman, veteran fireman, president of the American Hose Co., is the treasurer of the relief fund, while Robert Knecht, of the Yorkville company looks after the secretarial duties.

Benefits

Any member of the Pottsville Fire Department in good standing in his respective company, certified to by the president and secretary of the said company, with the company seal attached, who shall become disabled

while doing public fire duty in the City of Pottsville, is entitled to receive \$5 per day, beginning from the time of injury or sickness, for a period of 20 weeks. When necessary, an additional \$25 for medical services is allowed. A bill from the doctor must be submitted. No member is entitled to benefits who may, by reason of his own indiscretion bring on an injury or disease while doing public fire duty. This is determined by investigations on the part of the relief committee.

If any member is killed or should die from injuries received or disease contracted in the discharge of his duty as a member of the Pottsville Fire Department, and should leave a widow or heirs, the widow or heirs will receive the sum of \$1,000, and an additional \$5 per week for a period of 52 weeks. For each orphan, \$5 per week is paid for a period up to the time the orphan reaches the age of 16 years.

The association at this time is worth approximately \$75,000, all of which is invested in good paying securities. As the bond coupons are received, they are clipped and turned into bank, and this money invested in other bonds or securities. The association was and is now in a flourishing condition, and from a little sum of money subscribed at the time the association was formed by a special act of the Legislature back in the early 70's, of which the late Hon. B. Bryson McCool, a member of the Humane Company, was the sponsor of the bill, has grown into one of the wealthiest fire relief associations in the State of Pennsylvania.

In addition to the money received each year as interest on investments, the association also receives annually a proportionate share of the money collected by the state from foreign insurance companies doing business in the State of Pennsylvania. The

state collects two percent. on all business done in this state by these insurance companies. The Pottsville Firemen's Relief Association receives approximately \$3,000 each year as its share of this money.

The membership of the Pottsville Firemen's Relief Association consists of the members of each fire engine company, hook and ladder, hose, chemical and patrol company, regularly admitted and accepted into the fire department. There are about 1,300 members of the department who today are eligible for benefits in case of injury or death. Of this number, there are about 300 who are listed as active fire fighters.

No member of the department is entitled to benefits from the funds of the relief association who may be in arrears of his dues to the company which he represents. This is interpreted to mean in arrears for a period of more than three months.

Any citizen of Pottsville may be elected a life member by paying the sum of \$10, and upon his election, he will receive from the secretary a certificate of membership with the seal of the association attached. The citizen member will have no rights except such as may be accorded him by a vote of the association. The so-called "Life Member" is not eligible to hold any office in the association, nor is he entitled to benefits.

The Committee of Trustees is governed in their work by the by-laws and the constitution of the Board of Fire Trustees. To this committee is entrusted the investment of the relief fund, and may it be said here that up to this time, little or no money has been lost by poor investments. It is a general practice of these committees to invest what money may be available in good U. S. treasury bonds or some other securities, backed by municipal or county security. The committee at this time

is composed of J. Harry Leib, Henry O'Donnell and William L. Stevenson. Their recommendations, for the most part, are always given the approval and support of the association.

The auditing committee examine the accounts of the secretary and treasurer every three months, and submit in writing their report of the approval of the association. These audits are made during the months of April, July, October and January. At the end of each fiscal year, this board of auditors submits an annual report covering the finances of the association.

The Relief Committee

The president, J. Harry Leib; the vice-president, George Houser, and the secretary, Robert Knecht in accordance with the by-laws of the association, are known as the Relief Committee. It is their duty to investigate all membership claims for benefits, and must visit the injured or sick person within 48 hours after the claim has been filed. These visits continue once each week until the injured or sick has recovered. It is then on the recommendation of this committee that the benefits asked for are approved or rejected. The committee is given the power to secure the services of any physician where there may be a doubt as to the condition of the person or persons making the claim. The work of this committee is very important.

Careful study and consideration was given the by-laws before they were finally adopted. It was months before they were put into shape to be approved and finally adopted. The committee appointed for this work that was started in 1898 was composed of the following: John J. Johnson, Andrew H. Wilson, John Krieg, P. G. Boltz, George W. Good and John J. Moore. Of this committee, only Johnson is at present a member of the association.

The relief for firemen injured or taken sick in the performance of the duties entrusted to him was not obtained without a hard struggle on the part of the Board of Fire Trustees some 30 years ago. It was the dream of every firemen at that time that relief should be given, but with no money in sight, it appeared to be a hopeless task. Time went on, with the funds slowly increasing, and with the aid of the state appropriations and the successful investments of the association, there is now more than \$75,000 in securities of sound investments being held in the local banks as the wealth of the Pottsville Firemen's Relief Trust Association. John Johnson, president of the Board of Fire Trustees, always a hard worker for the good of the Pottsville firemen, was one of the outstanding members of the executive body, who fought tooth and nail for the firemen's relief. "There is nothing too good for the firemen of Pottsville," President Johnson has often been heard to say.

For more than three decades the Firemen's Relief Association has been receiving its pro rata share of the two per cent. tax levied on the premiums of all policies of foreign fire insurance companies that do business in Pennsylvania.

The incorporation of the organization was legally handled by the late Hon. C. C. Matten, of Pottsville, who was a member of the State Legislature, representing the Fourth District of Schuylkill County.

Of the original subscribers there survive: John J. Johnson and Frank W. Leib, of the Good Intent Fire Company; Andrew H. Wilson, of the Humane; John J. Moore and Police Sergeant Edward Scott, of the Phoenix, and George F. Moore, of the West End Hose Company.

The initial state money received was \$158. This was the nest egg from which the present substantial worth of the Firemen's Relief Association developed.



Miners Bank Over 100 Years Old

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* November 4, 1933)

A steady stream of people this afternoon passed through the handsome new banking house of the Miners National Bank on S. Centre St., and their amazement and pleasure was sufficient comment for the officers of the bank to know that they had builded wisely and well.

So read a paragraph in the "Republican" of Nov. 4th, 1927, the day on which the public was allowed to inspect the new bank building. But, before speaking of the present building at 120 South Centre St. on the site which they have occupied over one hundred years, let us first go back and review the early days of the bank.

The Miners Bank was incorporated by an Act of Legislature on February 7th, 1828, a commission consisting of Levi Elimaker, and Robert Easp, of Phila., E. B. Nichols, and C. A. Bradford of Schuylkill County and Jos. Paxton, David Cleaver, and Gen. Daniel Montgomery, later President of the Pottsville and Danville Railroad, of Columbia County having been created to carry the Act into effect. On the 29th of September, 1828, the charter was issued, authorizing the bank to do business with a capital of \$200,000 until Jan. 1st, 1840. The first president was Francis B. Nichols and the first cashier D. J. Rhoads. On Feb. 23, 1831, Mr. Nichols, who was also the first executive of the borough, resigned and on March 4th, 1831, John Shippen was elected to the vacancy.

Actual banking business was begun Oct. 28, 1828 in a little building at the southeast corner of Centre and Nor-

wegian Sts., rented from Jacob Alost for \$150 a year. The first piece of business was discounting the note of John Plumer of Bloomsburg.

At this time, there was a boom in coal lands, prices were going to ridiculous levels and discounting was a risky proceeding. The situation was not improved by the abundance of depreciated currency issued by banks all over the county.

In its early days, the bank paid no interest on deposits save by special action of the directors and the first instance was a payment to Jos. Shelley on his \$1,200 deposit in October, 1833.

In 1830-31, it was found possible to build, and a new bank home which was considered a model in that time was erected on the present site. The business increased and more banking facilities were needed so in September of 1884, work was started on remodeling and enlarging the bank. Again in 1905 more changes were made, a new vault was added, a large number of safe deposit boxes were installed and many other improvements were made.

The State Legislature extended the charter of the bank from time to time and on Dec. 13th, 1864, it was converted into a National Bank with a paid up capital of \$500,000 and a circulation of \$360,000.

But even with the improvements which were made in 1907, the bank found that its quarters were not adequate so plans were laid for a new building. The Fuller Contracting Co., of New York were awarded the contract and on Oct. 6th, 1926 the work

of demolishing the old Miners' Bank building was started by P. S. Canfield, of New Phila. On Friday, Nov. 4th, 1927, the present handsome structure of the Miners Bank was opened for business.

The "Republican" in speaking of the new bank building said:

"The Miners Bank is an old bank conducted on modern lines and it is especially fitting that its new home outwardly follows the handsome Colonial style which was founded on the classic Greek, while the interior will be fitted with every design and appliance adapted to modern banking.

"In true Colonial fashion, the exterior is a contrast of red and white—walls of red Harvard brick and ornaments of Georgia marble. Against the ruddy background white pilasters support an elaborate marble entablature and pediment.

"In the heavy marble doorway are wrought bronze doors, depicting the coal mining industry, and beyond them two sets of lighter bronze doors, forming a vestibule with walls of golden brown marble and ceiling of bronze."

The bank, in spite of many trying times in the country, has never had any financial difficulties and bears the reputation of being one of the soundest financial institutions in the state.

Since its incorporation, the following have been Presidents of the bank: F. B. Nichols, John Shippen, W. L. Whitney, Col. Wm. Thompson, H. S. Thompson, J. S. Ulmer, and Jas. Archbald.

On January 30, 1932, the consolidation of the business of the Port Carbon Bank with the Miners Bank was announced, and thereafter the

business of that bank was conducted at the local bank.

On July 18, 1933, Harry C. Frick, cashier of the bank, died, and on Nov. 1, 1933, Chas. A. Berner, formerly assistant cashier, and associated with the bank since 1905 was elected by the Board of Directors as cashier. Harry A. Bean and Chas. C. Weber, at that time were also elected assistant cashiers of the bank.

Other cashiers have been:—D. J. Rhoads, J. Craven, Jos. Thomas, Chas. Loeser, Frederick Patterson, W. L. Whitney, Wm. Thompson, Geo. H. DeFrehn and Harry Frick.

On the Board of Directors at various times have been members of many of the prominent families of the town including Lewis Audenreid, D. P. Brown, T. A. Biddle, J. M. Beatty, T. D. Beatty, John Bohlen, Gideon Bast, D. R. Bennett, Alexander Benson, Chas. Baber, B. W. Cumming, Wm. Donaldson, L. C. Dougherty, Oliver Dobson, J. D. Deibert, J. C. Earnst, Nathan Evans, Solomon Foster, Jas. Focht, Wm. Fox, Christian Fox, Samuel Huntzinger, Elijah Hammer, Jacob Hammer, G. W. Heebner, John Heebner, Joseph Jeans, G. D. Johns, F. P. Kaercher, Thos. Mills, Wm. Mortimer, Jr., Chas. Miller, Alexander Moorhead, C. A. Meck, F. B. Nichols, J. L. Nutting, J. C. Offerman, Burd Patterson, Jos. Paxton, Benj. Pott, T. C. Pollock, F. J. Parvin, Geo. Patterson, J. L. Pott, G. H. Potts, B. F. Pomeroy, John Phillips, T. M. Russell, Geo. Rosengarten, Henry Rosengarten, Geo. Shoemaker, Thos. Silliman, Edwin Swift, John Schall, Samuel Silliman, S. H. Shannon, W. H. Schall, B. F. Shannon, Henry Strauch, Jesse Dumer, Martin Weaver, R. F. Weaver, J. W. Weber, Geo. W. Roads, W. L. Whitney and T. H. Walker.

The present officers of the bank are as follows:—Jas. Archbald, presi-

dent; Louis F. Ulmer, vice president; Chas. A. Berner, cashier; M. Monroe Myers, trust officer; Harry A. Bean, Chas. C. Weber and Russell E. Muench assistant cashiers. The directors are: Jas. Archbald, Louis F. Ulmer, Nor-

man J. Beisel, J. W. Beecher, Jas. B. Neale, B. Helm Stockett, Hugh Dolan, Harry R. Carl, and Geo. H. Kaercher.

Since the above was written, Cashier Chas. A. Berner died suddenly.



Board of Health Organized in 1893

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* November 6, 1933)

For many years, the Board of Health has held its monthly meeting on the first Monday in the month and, as it is meeting this evening, it seemed that this date was a suitable one for the history of the Board of Health.

For better preservation of the public health and to prevent the spread of communicable diseases, a Board of Health was organized here 40 years ago. Drastic rules and regulations governing the operation of this body was a part of the organization of which rules and regulations were approved on the 19th day of September, 1893, by the Town Council. Since that time, and up to this time, these said rules are effective as they were when first drafted by the five members of the first board, who were: A. H. Halberstadt, S. B. Briscoe, F. J. Sheaffer, Edward S. Weiser, Christ Staehle.

While a regular Board of Health was not organized until 1893, it is interesting to know that the health of Pottsville prior to that time was not overlooked, as there was a health department known as a Sanitary Board in operation since 1832, appointed by the Town Council.

On August 2, 1832, a Board was appointed by Council to confer daily with the committee of the Board of Health, composed of Joseph Lyon, president of Council; Joseph G. Shippen, M. D., and Benjamin Thurston. The committee was composed of John E. Ernst, Edsin Safford, John Strauch, Thomas Beatty, Jacob Dewees, M. D., George Taylor, Benja-

min F. Pomroy, John Bittle and Samuel Lewis.

At this time, there was a cholera epidemic in many parts of the country, and this measure was taken as a precaution. As a protection in case of there being invalids who had no means of taking care of themselves, two buildings on Mahantongo St. were fixed up for this purpose by order of the Sanitary Board. This was apparently the first move toward a hospital in this region.

The first real duty of the Board of Health, organized in 1893, was the checking of a typhoid fever epidemic that was caused by the contamination of a water spring located just south of the present Reading Freight Station. For weeks and weeks this epidemic continued, because the source of the trouble could not be located. Gilbert F. Bretz, who was then the health officer, made a complete survey of the city, and is given credit for finding the source of the cause for the epidemic. He traced a water stream from Sharp Mountain that ran from Sharp Mountain down to the railroad yard, and there collected in a small pool. This water was examined and tested, and was found to be infested with the typhoid germs. This water had been used for drinking purposes, and just as soon as the spring was eliminated, the number of typhoid fever cases decreased rapidly, but not before many deaths were reported.

There has been no change in the operation of the department, as the same rules and regulations as adopted in 1893 are now in use. The

first step towards the organization of a Board of Health was taken by the Town Council on the 12th day of July, 1893. when an ordinance was passed providing for the establishment of a Board of Health, as provided in the Act of Assembly of 1893.

The ordinance was not passed without considerable discussion. It was taken up and adopted in sections. The first section of the ordinance included the district or wards of the borough, from each of which a member of the Board of Health was appointed. There are five districts, as follows: District No. 1. composed of the Seventh Ward, including Mt. Hope and York Farm; District No. 2, the Fifth Ward; District No. 3, the Fourth Ward; District No. 4, the Third Ward, and District No. 5, the First and Second Wards. At the time of the adoption of the ordinance these districts were somewhat different. The first district was composed of the North and Seventh Wards, the latter then the Fishbach section; District No. 2, was composed of the Northwest Ward; District No. 3, was known as the Middle Ward; District No. 4, was the South Ward; District No. 5, the Northeast and Southeast Wards.

There has been no change in these districts, although the members of the Health Board at the present time are not representing all the districts as set forth in the original regulations. The president of the Board, Dr. C. V. Hogan, and Dr. Henry Dirschedl, reside in the Fourth Ward; William McCord, in the First Ward; William Stephenson, the Third Ward, and Paul Buehler, the Seventh Ward. The Second, Fifth and Sixth Wards are not represented.

Member of First Board

The first Board of Health under the new ordinance, and as appointed by the president of the Town Coun-

cil were the following: First District, Christ Staehle, to serve two years; Second District, E. S. Weiser, to serve one year; Third District, A. H. Halberstadt, to serve five years; Fourth District, F. J. Sheaffer, four years; Fifth District, S. B. Briscoe, three years. The appointments to the Health Board at the present time are made by the mayor and approved by City Council, and all are for a period of five years.

Under the direction and jurisdiction of the Health Board, the health problems of the city are looked after by a health officer. Regular inspections of the entire city are made periodically, and every eating house, hotel and any other place or places where food stuff is handled is subject to these inspections, and the owners are required to provide regular certificates of health for all employes, who must first submit to a rigid medical examination. The work of the health officer was first started back in 1893 by Fred A. Wildermuth, who was the first appointed secretary. He continued his work for a number of years, and early in 1900 was succeeded by Dr. William H. Robinson, who served in that capacity up to the time of his death in 1912. The next secretary was Dr. H. J. Herbein, who at present handles all the secretarial duties of the department. He has been in continuous service for 20 years, and probably no other person in Pottsville is better informed on local health conditions than is Dr. Herbein. All health certificates, licenses, etc., are issued by him at his office at 409 Garfield Square, after the health officer has carefully made an investigation of the applicant. He records all cases of communicable diseases, and until recently was a state registrar for deaths and births.

The Health Board, while it operates as a separate body, is under the

direction of City Council. It is listed in the Department of Public Safety. It is to the superintendent of this department that all reports are given for City Council's approval and it is to the department superintendent that all bills for the health department are given for payment. It costs annually about \$2,500 to operate the Health Department, which includes the salaries of the health officer and secretary. The former receives \$135 per month, while the secretary receives \$600 annually. The superintendent of public safety attends all meetings of the Health Board, which are held on the first Monday evening of each month in the Council Chamber at City Hall. The members of the Health Board are not compensated.

Since the organization of the first Board of Health there have been seven health officers. The first officer was Captain James Hoskins, a Civil War veteran. He served for about five years, and was succeeded by Rev. William D. Williams, a well known local clergyman. He was succeeded by Dr. G. F. Bretz. The next appointment was that of O. L. Kleckner, who served for a period of years up to the time of the appointment of David Thomas, the present street supervisor, who was appointed during the time of Mayor Pritchard. The next appointment was that of Charles Heiser, now a local police officer. He was succeeded by the present health officer, Alex C. Huntzinger, who was appointed about three years ago. The duties of the health officer are not at all pleasant, as he is subject to all kinds of communicable diseases, and often meets with protests on the part of local citizens when he conducts his inspections. No matter whom it might hurt, Officer Huntzinger is stern in his ways when it comes to

correcting conditions found to be unsanitary.

Major Appoints Members

The appointment of health directors or members of the Health Board are made by the mayor. He names his choice and submits the name to City Council for ratification. The member is then given proper credentials, and at the meeting of the Health Board at the end of each fiscal year, January, the new member is given the oath of office by the president of the Board of Health, and is then seated.

Whatever is dangerous to human life or health, whatever renders the air, or food, or water, or other drink unwholesome, and whatever building, erection or part in cellar, is overcrowded, or not provided with adequate means of ingress or egress, or is not sufficiently supported, ventilated, sewerred, drained, cleaned or lighted, are declared nuisances and violations of the health laws, all persons guilty of these violations, under the rules of the Board of Health, are subject to a heavy fine and costs of abating the said nuisance.

About 20 years ago, Pottsville had a smallpox epidemic. It was a serious condition, but the local Health Board, through the cooperation of the State Department of Health, met the condition and succeeded in checking the epidemic before it became general throughout the city. A temporary house or hospital was erected on Lawton's Hill at the Agricultural Park, where the patients were placed in quarantine. No person was permitted to enter the building, and a "dead" line was circled about the wooden structure, over which no one was permitted to cross. Watchmen were on duty 24 hours to enforce the rules, and within two months the epidemic was entirely eliminated. There was another smallpox epidemic

scare about 10 years ago, but this was checked before it became serious, and as the result of the work on the part of the health authorities, only five persons were stricken. During the "flu" epidemic of some years ago, the local Board of Health worked 100 per cent. and cooperating with the State Department was instrumental in relieving conditions locally.

The Board of Health meets on the first Monday evening of each week. At these meetings, the secretary submits his report for the previous month, as does the health officer. After these reports are read, the meeting is then open for general discussion on health and sanitary conditions, and from these discussions many important problems are solved for the betterment of the community. Regular inspections of the city are made by the Board of Health as a body, and each year the Minersville St. section of the city, as well as other sections are visited. Many conditions have been corrected on Minersville St. as the result of these inspections. Overcrowded homes, which were a source of nuisance, has been entirely eliminated. At one time, eight, nine and as high as 20 persons were living in one house that was only large enough to house three or four. This has been entirely eliminated, and the health condition today in the colored section of our city is about normal.

Probably the only change in the rules and regulations of the Health

Board from those adopted 40 years ago is the method of milk control. A few years ago, in 1925, City Council passed an ordinance providing for strict rules and regulations governing the distribution of milk. A milk control officer was appointed. M. P. Sponis, of Minersville, whose duty it was to check all points of milk distribution, and to make regular tests of milk coming into Pottsville. Officer Sponis carried on this work until March 1, 1933, when he resigned as a part of City Council's economy program. The office of milk control officer was abolished, but the work is being carried on the same way by the health officer, who makes regular inspections of all local dairies, and where it is found necessary, makes tests of the milk. These tests, however, are not made by the health officer, but are made in the laboratories of the State Department of Health at Harrisburg. Former Councilman Harry C. Weitzel was the sponsor of the milk control ordinance.

Every rule governing the health and sanitation of Pottsville as framed 40 years ago, by that first Health Board, is now in effect and being enforced.

The following is the personnel of the Pottsville Health Department as of this writing: President, Dr. Charles V. Hogan; William Stephenson, Paul Buehler, William McCord, Dr. Henry Dirschedl, Secretary H. J. Herbein, Health Officer Alex C. Huntzinger, Department Superintendent, Councilman William L. Stevenson, director of public safety.

Phoenix Fire Co. Formed in 1829

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* November 7, 1933)

in spite of the disagreeable weather there was a large attendance on Saturday night to witness the laying of the cornerstone of the new house of the Phoenix Fire Co. The members of the company and the several speakers (Guy E. Farquhar and Hon. Jas. B. Reilly) were escorted to the site of the new structure by the Third Brigade Band . . . thus reads an item in the "Daily Republican" of Nov. 9, 1885 referring to the cornerstone laying which had taken place on the previous Saturday evening, Nov. 7, 1885.

It was somewhere about the middle of April, 1829, that the Hydraulian Fire Company, predecessor of the Phoenix "fire laddies", one of the seven companies now comprising the Pottsville Fire Department, was founded. Many of the early facts here presented about the company were gleaned from the historical record compiled by Mrs. Ella Zerbey Elliot. On July 15, 1830, the Pottsville Borough Council minute book states: Resolved, that the communication from the Schuylkill Hydraulian Fire Company, be laid on the table.

John J. Moore is in possession of a letter from Daniel Krebs, borough clerk to John P. Powers, President of the Phoenix, stating that he had examined all old borough records showing that on Apr. 30, 1830, the Schuylkill Hydraulian Fire Co. was the first on record.

On July 19, 1830, the following action was taken by the borough legislators:

"Resolved, that it is inexpedient for the Borough to grant the Schuylkill Hydraulian Company any money, at this time, but would recommend said company to appoint George C. Trout-

man, Joseph Lyon, David Phillips, Jacob Reed and George Shoemaker, as a committee, to solicit subscriptions from the citizens."

Still later in the year, on August 30th, Council ordered that the body, as a whole, meet, the following day, at the house of Mr. Woodman, to view an engine. Then Council organized with Burd Patterson presiding and Samuel Brook as secretary. It was resolved to purchase the engine on the terms offered by Mr. Cumming, one-half cash and the balance in one year, for \$275.

On August 31, Burd Patterson was appointed to carry the action into effect and it was also decided that the Chief Burgess be authorized to give his note for the balance.

During the following month, September 20, it was resolved that the Chief Burgess accept Merrit & Agnew's draft for \$697.80, at six months, from September 15th, that the draft be met when due, in payment of a hydraulian engine for the use of the Schuylkill Hydraulian Fire Company, of Pottsville.

Two small hand engines, dubbed "Squirt" and "Ranger", and a home-made hose crab constituted the first machines used by the company. The former was the better of the two. They were the property of the Borough. The crab and the "Squirt" were kept in a shed, in the rear of the "White Horse" Hotel, which occupied a portion of the present Necho Allen Hotel and the "Republican" office buildings.

The "Ranger" was placed in a shed in the rear of the Borough's stone building, corner of Centre and Race

Sts., now the site of the grammar school building.

This was where the new engine was subsequently housed. The "Squirt", "Ranger" and "Sam", borough engines, were small-size equipment, provided with tanks filled from the top from buckets and with handles or cranks that turned, on the sides. The new engine was constructed with hydraulic valves and could suck water from a stream.

Pottsville's primitive borough building faced on Centre Street. The lower story was divided. The engine occupied the front. The lockup cell was in the rear. The latter had a grated window, in the school yard, and an iron-bound door on Race Street. The engine house doors opened on Centre Street. The Borough Council chamber was in the second story.

An interesting minute of the Borough Council, dated Dec. 7, 1847, reads: "To let the Hydraulian Fire Company have an engine, in their care, belonging to the Borough."

The firemen were prominent factors in the community. Frequently, especially on a Saturday night, rough characters, from surrounding towns, figured in rows and the lockup would be filled with the disturbers of the peace. Occasionally, the "Drollies" showed their dislike for such quarrelsome neighbors by liberating them when the noise they made became intolerable.

Local Company Reorganizes

The Schuylkill Hydraulian Engine Company reorganized on September 21, 1848, adopting this motto: "We give no right, we take no 'trough' and we don't give a d.— for nobody," signed James Dolan.

With President J. W. Taylor, Vice President John Mooney and Secretary James A. McBarron officiating, at a meeting of the company, a motion was made by John P. Powers, who held membership since 1844, that

an election be held, at the next meeting night, for permanent officers in accordance with the terms of the constitution. The dues were fixed at 12½ cents per month. The old members were requested to hand over their equipment to the reorganized company.

At the meeting, held on September 25, 1848, the following officers were elected: John W. Taylor, President; Martin Murphy, Vice Pres.; James A. McBarron, Secy.; John Mooney, Treas. Among those who paid their dues and signed the membership roll were: Judge Bernard Reilly, Christ F. Conrad, Michael Welsh, James Sheridan, Charles Arbogast, James McCormick, Thomas Fogarty, David Sands, Thomas Jones, John O'Connor and W. G. Matthews.

To procure funds, to repaint the old engine, a committee of eight were named as solicitors.

The above constituted the first complete original personnel of officers.

Today the following officials are looking after the affairs of the company: Joseph McKeon, President; Vincent Kearns, Vice Pres.; George B. Stichter, Jr., Recording Secy.; M. J. Fox, Financial Secy.; Joseph McKeon, James DeNapoli, the latter being the efficient secretary of the Fire Trustees, the legislative body of the seven companies of the Pottsville Fire Department, and James Warren, Trustees; James DeNapoli, H. F. O'Donnell and Vincent Kearns, Fire Trustees.

It was decided, at a meeting held on September 28, 1848, to adopt red shirts with full bosoms and deep collar, black leather belts and black, glazed firemen's shovel hats, as the company's regulation uniform. The title of the company was ordered inscribed on the hats and belts.

Twelve boys were appointed to run with hose carriage. Article No. 8,

added to the company's bylaws, was adopted imposing a fine of 50 cents for the first offense, and \$1.00 for the second, for every riotous act or intoxication of which the members might be guilty.

William Wolfinger, James R. Shearer and Benjamin Shell were elected members as was also John Lewis, a colored man. Lewis was allowed to wear the uniform and equipment, but was not granted the privilege of handling the engine.

It was on January 11, 1849, that John P. Powers was elected to the presidency of the company. Seven fire horns were ordered and a committee was appointed to investigate the character of all applicants for membership.

For service during the Civil War, the members of the company, to a man, enlisted. It was necessary to leave the apparatus in the care of the Borough Council. Fire service was given by a few old men who were aided by the Western Boys and such citizens who would volunteer to man the apparatus in the event of a fire emergency.

In the old Town Hall, on September 26, 1867, a meeting was held when it was decided to adopt a new name for the company. Phoenix, Hibernia and Emmet were proposed, but Phoenix was finally agreed upon.

With the addition of two amendments, proposed by Attorney Guy E. Farquhar, the report of a committee, which was named, on motion of Attorney John A. Nash, to revise the old Hydraulian constitution and bylaws, was unanimously adopted.

At this time the company was meeting in the second story of the building, corner of Centre and Norwegian Streets. The machines were kept on the east side of Second St., two doors from West Norwegian St.; in the building at the northeast cor-

ner of East Market Street and Logan Alley; and in a frame shed where the brick building, erected by the borough, afterward stood.

Fire Destroys Engine House

This house, on Coal Street, which an alley divided from the old Pottsville Hotel, opposite, subsequently, the printing office of the "Pottsville Emporium", was destroyed by fire, but was rebuilt. The P. R. R. afterward purchased the ground on which it stood. The later building, a two-story brick, on East Norwegian St., above Coal Street, was completed in 1885. During the interim, the apparatus was stored in the Market House, in the Mountain City Building. The company also conducted meetings in the upper part of that structure at this time.

The secretary of the old Hydraulian Fire Company, on January 7, 1868, turned over all the books and records of the company to the officers of the newly-organized Phoenix Company. Such of the members of the old company, who did not wish to join the new one, were given \$5 apiece for their hats and \$1 for their belts. Then the equipment was changed to meet the requirements of the change of name and a new uniform was adopted.

On motion of Arthur Brannigan, a new member, Thomas Bannan, was elected. The former was fined five cents for leaving the meeting without permission of the chair. At the same time, Charles Logue, in charge of the company's bar, incensed because someone passed a \$10 counterfeit bill on him, among the company funds, at the organization's ball, threatened to withdraw unless he was reimbursed. The complaint was laid on the table but later it was taken up, and, following a lengthy argument at a subsequent meeting, Logue was reimbursed.

John P. Powers was elected president at the close of the term of Guy E. Farquhar.

James B. Reilly was chosen president of the company at an election on January 7, 1871. The red-peaked hat, across the front of which was carried "Chief Engineer F. D.," worn by Martin Davis (who was the first engineer of the Pottsville Fire Department and was a member of the Hydraulian Company) with letters being of leather on the peak, with his gum coat and horn are still treasured possessions of the Phoenix Company.

With slight revisions and amendments, which were proposed by other companies, the Phoenix Company submitted a formula or code of laws and regulations for the control of the fire department which were adopted. The reorganization of the department was effective as of September 6, 1877.

New Building Cornerstone Laid

On Saturday night, November 7, 1885, there was a large gathering of citizens to witness the laying of the cornerstone for the present building on East Norwegian Street, north of Coal Street, just above the present P. R. R. passenger station.

Headed by the Third Brigade Band, the members of the company and speakers were escorted to the site of the new home of the company after a parade. The first speaker was Attorney Guy E. Farquhar. Hon. Jas. B. Reilly followed him. Both, as firemen, extended good advice and counsel to their fellow members.

Mr. Reilly, in his remarks, referred to the splendid service which members of the Phoenix Company gave during the Mexican and Civil Wars. He eulogized Captain Powers, who had been an active fireman since 1844.

R. C. Collins, who dressed the cornerstone, assisted by the president of the company, properly placed it.

After the cornerstone-laying the procession re-formed and the members of the company and speakers proceeded to the restaurant of James Quinn, on North Centre Street, where there was a period of lunching and general festivities. Fire Chief Fred Meiswinkle and his assistants with prominent representatives of the various fire companies and citizens participated in the enjoyment of the occasion.

In the cornerstone were placed: The constitution of the old Hydraulian Company and a copy of that of the new Phoenix Company with the membership roll, names of the deceased members, minutes of the organization of the "Drollies", monogram of the truck, names of the Chief Burgess, Council and Borough officials, local newspapers, the key of the old engine house, a cigar-smoker manufactured from anthracite coal, a key-holder, coins of various nations, placed in the receptacle by members of the company, and also company members' monograms.

The Phoenix Company procured a three-way-hitch horse-drawn truck, at a cost of \$2,700 which was used in lieu of the first hook and ladder truck, pulled by hand.

Borough Council, during April, 1894, restricting the use of part of the hose in service, the Phoenix Company sold their hose carriage, which represented an original investment of \$750, for \$150, to the Palo Alto Hose Company.

All the members of the Phoenix Company are included in the beneficial features of the organization. After a new member is proposed he must undergo a physical examination similar to that required by life insurance companies. The other companies of the department adopt beneficial features, as a distinct association, separate from active membership as firemen.

In 1908 there was purchased the then latest improved auto truck, which cost \$13,500. It was of 1919 model, 75-foot extension type.

In lieu of the primitive apparatus, with which the company was equipped during the early history of the organization, today, they own an American La-France aerial truck, regarded as one of the finest in the anthracite region. It has been in possession of the company since July 1919.

Before the purchase of the aerial truck the previous apparatus was turned over to the La-France company. The present truck was purchased at a cost of \$18,000.

Aerial Truck Damaged

It was during March 1927 that the truck, in responding to a fire call, close to the boundary line, between

Pottsville and Mechanicsville, struck the curb, at the curve, and was overturned. Such damage was done that the piece of apparatus was out of commission for six months. In the meantime, the truck underwent extensive repairs which brought about practically the entire rebuilding of the apparatus. With the introduction of the latest improvement additional cost was entailed which brought up the company's entire investment, in the truck, to a total of \$24,500.

Council made improvements to the Phoenix Co.'s building, several times, and finally placed sawed-off telegraph poles to strengthen the foundations. It was found incumbent to do extensive remodeling in 1921. Steel beams were installed and electrical fixtures introduced.



City Charter Passed November 8, 1910

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* November 8, 1933)

Pottsville citizens voted on the question of a city charter a number of times before it was finally passed, and the borough became a third class city.

The opponents of the city charter had been very strong for a number of years. In 1899, the question was submitted to the voters, and it was defeated by 157 votes. Again, on November 7, 1905, it was defeated, this time by only 45 votes. This gave the city charter advocates new courage, and when Yorkville was admitted to the borough in 1907, they again started quietly to work to have Pottsville made a city.

The movement finally came to its consummation on October 3, 1910, when a petition, containing the names of 234 reputable business men was presented to the court, asking that the matter be submitted to the voters at the November election.

Several days after this, on October 7, 1910, the committee met in the Y. M. C. A., and appointed committees to carry on the publicity work. A. L. Eckert was chairman of the meeting. Frank Miehle was chosen treasurer, and F. S. Haeseler, solicitor of funds.

The committees were appointed as follows: Publicity—August Knecht, E. L. Clifford, R. C. Shearer, H. I. Silliman and G. E. Farquhar; Halls and Meetings—Daniel Duffy, H. J. Herbein, Dr. G. R. S. Corson, Harry R. Foster and J. H. Gellert.

Ward Committee—F. S. Haeseler, chairman; First Ward, J. W. Conrad; Second, G. B. Stichter; Third, J. B. Schoen; Fourth, C. P. Hoffman;

Fifth, Heber Hooks; Sixth, W. E. Lecher; Seventh, W. G. Payne. The Merchants Association reported that it would bear the expense of advertising the city charter application notice.

October 10th, the Women's Civic Club met and sent word to the City Charter Association that it heartily endorsed the movement, and would do everything possible to aid it.

The question was submitted to the voters on November 8, 1910, and passed by a majority of 71. The official vote on the charter by wards was as follows, with the first column of figures showing the number for, and the second column, those against the issue:

Wards	For	Agnst.
First	181	167
Second	149	126
Third	293	250
Fourth, 1st	182	90
Fourth, 2nd	211	164
Fifth, 1st	215	120
Fifth, 2nd	182	133
Sixth, 1st	61	145
Sixth, 2nd	55	134
Seventh	107	236

At the November 5th election, 1913, the first city officials were elected. The contest for mayor was a spirited one, John W. Conrad opposing F. Pierce Mortimer for the office. Mortimer won by 166 votes, and at the meeting on November 18, 1913, the new city charter was recognized officially by Council, at which Mayor-elect Mortimer, and four councilmen-elect, Hugh Dolan, James M. Shellhammer, Joseph M. Nichter, and A. L. Eckert, were present.

On December 1, 1913, the new officials were sworn in, and the following in addition to mayor and councilmen comprised the city administration: G. A. Berner, city clerk; Frank W. Leib, city treasurer; E. P. Leuschner, city solicitor; W. S. Pugh, city engineer; Captain James Hopestine, chief of police; Charles Graeff, John Shovlin, Edward Scott, Charles McClellan, Charles Mager, Albert Smith, James Moyer, Thomas Klinger, Michael O'Brien and George Blankenhorn, jatrohmen, and Harry K. Portz, controller.

On January 4th, 1911, Council ordered Borough Engineer Pugh to carry to Harrisburg the official boundaries of the City of Pottsville, as required by the state to be done within 60 days after election.

Although the officials were inducted into service, the opponents of the city charter did not give up the fight, and the new city officials were ordered to appear before the attorney general on December 19th to make answer to the quo warranto proceedings to have the charter annulled.

Pottsville, in preparing the original charter, presented the petition to the court direct, as provided by one Act of Assembly, while another Act provided that it should first be presented to the town council and then the court. It was on this that the legal action was based.

December 23rd, Attorney General Bell granted the petition of the citizens of Pottsville for a writ of quo warranto to test the legality of the charter, and the hearing was set before the Dauphin County Court.

In an opinion handed down April 11, 1914. Judge George Kunkel, of the Dauphin County Court, decided that the election by which Pottsville decided to become a city of the third class was legal, and that it was legally entitled to be a city of the

third class. A. L. Shay, attorney for the anti-city people declared that he would appeal the case at once.

The appeal was taken to the Supreme Court, and on July 1, 1914, the Supreme Court upheld the Dauphin County Court decision, and Pottsville was declared a city, and the matter finally disposed of.

Since that time, nearly a score of years, many prominent citizens of the community have filled municipal office.

There have been four mayors. F. Pierce Mortimer served for two terms, from 1913 to 1921, inclusive; Dr. J. Oren Bearstler, from 1922 to 1925; LaMar L. Pritchard, from 1926 to 1930, inclusive, and John B. Dengler, from 1930 to 1933, inclusive.

As city councilmen, the following have served, some of them, during the earlier years of the municipality, being elected for terms of only two years each. Now every councilman is elected for a term of four years. Those who served in the city's legislative body follow: Hugh F. Dolan, 1913, '14, '15, and '19; Abraham L. Eckert, 1913, '14, and '15; Joseph H. Nichter, 1913, '14, '15, '18 and '19; James M. Shellhammer, 1913, '14 and '15; Dr. J. Oren Bearstler, 1916, '17, '18, '19, '20, '21, '28 and '29; Hiram S. Davies, 1916 and '17; George W. Jungkurth, 1916, '17, '18 and '19; Jacob B. Schoen, 1916; '17, '20, '21, '26 and '27; George J. Smith, 1918 and '19.

John B. Dengler, 1920, '21, '22, '23, '24, '25, '26, '27, '28, and '29; LaMar L. Pritchard 1920, '21, '22, '23, '24 and '25; Robert J. Bostock, 1922 and '23; Percy L. Knowlton, 1924, '25, '30, '31, '32 and '33; Elmer F. Schlaseman, 1922, '23 and '24; William H. Warmkessel, '24 and '25; William M. Knoll, 1926; John B. Bowman, 1926, '27, '28, '29, '30, '31, '32, '33, '34, '35; H. C. Weitzel, 1926 and '27; Thomas B. Shoener, 1928,

Joseph H. Zerbey History, Pottsville and Schuylkill County, Penna.

'29, '30, and '31; J. Ronald Wilson, 1930, '31, '32 and '33; William L. Stevenson, 1932, '33, '34 and '35.

Jungkurth died in 1919. Bostock resigned, after serving two years, to be inducted into the office of county prothonotary. Percy L. Knowltoon, by appointment, served out the remaining two years of his term. Elmer E. Schlaseman died in 1924, and William H. Karmkessel was appointed to serve out his unexpired term. William M. Knoll died in 1926, after serving only a few months of his four years. John B. Bowman was appointed to fill the vacancy, and afterward, was chosen as his own successor at every election to date.

Other officers who have held berths since Pottsville became a city are: Controller, Harry K. Portz, Aaron Moore and H. C. Weitzel; Fire Chief—James A. Lynaugh, William L. Stevenson and George A. Smith; City Clerk—G. A. Berner for a straight term of 20 years; Solicitor—E. P. Leuschner, M. H. Spicker, J. L. N. Channell, H. O. Bechtel and R. E. Freiler; City Engineer—William S. Pugh, John Strauch and George H. Steidle; Treasurer—Frank W. Leib and Charles P. Hoffman; Assessor—R. L. Jones, Frank M. Bertram, Charles Myers and Frank W. Leib; Sealer of Weights and Measures—H. H. Seltzer, Charles A. Schlottman, Harry F. Bushar and Jere Geiger.



History of Soldiers' Monument

(From "Republican," Nov. 10, 1897)

"The Academy was thronged to the doors last night, the attraction being the exercises attending the transfer of the Soldiers' Monument on Garfield Square, to the custody of the borough of Pottsville.....

"The parquet was reserved for Town Council, School Board and the various military organizations, of which the following were present: First Defenders, Gowen Post No. 23, G. A. R., Union Veteran Legion Encampment No. 19; Lawrence Post No. 17, Minersville; Pottsville Cadets and Camp General J. K. Sigfried, Sons of Veterans.....

"The following prominent gentlemen, most of whom are members of the Monumental Association, occupied seats on the stage: Col. J. C. Frick, N. C. Morrison, Dr. C. H. Haeseler, Col. Henry Royer, James Niece, Baird Snyder, president of Town Council, Major Levi Huber, Capt. D. C. Henning, Dr. D. W. Bland, Major H. S. Thompson, Rev. J. H. Eastman, of the First Presbyterian Church, and Rev. A. R. Bartholomew of Trinity Reformed Church."

The evening referred to in the foregoing paragraphs which have been quoted from the "Republican" of Nov. 10, 1897 was that of Nov. 9th of that year, when the monument was officially transmitted to the borough.

On June 15, 1887, a meeting of the soldiers and sailors, of Schuylkill County, was held in Pottsville when the imposing monument, which occupies the center of Garfield Square, was proposed to perpetuate and keep green the memory of their heroic deeds for all generations to come. Capt. S. R. Russel was chosen temporary president and Capt. John A. Schweers secretary.

Then permanent officers were elected after the Soldiers' Monument Park Association, of Schuylkill

County, was formed, as follows:— Col. Henry Royer, president; General J. K. Sigfried, vice president; Capt. John A. Schweers, secretary; Dr. F. W. Boyer, treasurer; Capt. D. C. Henning, solicitor; and Capt. D. A. Smith, E. J. Gaynor, Thos. A. Reilly, Lieut. H. C. Russel, Colonel J. M. Wetherill, Captain Samuel R. Russel, Colonel J. G. Frick, Hon. D. B. Green, Captain John T. Boyle, Capt. D. C. Henning, James Niece, Major Heber S. Thompson, Lieut. Hugh Stevenson, Major Levi Huber, Capt. Richard Rahn, Capt. Frank Hause, Major James Ellis, Lieut. Charles Saylor, P. W. Sheaffer, Dr. D. W. Bland, Dr. Charles Haeseler, Andrew Robertson, Fred. G. Yuengling, Wm. R. Kennedy, Wm. R. Cole, J. H. Zerbey, of the "Daily Republican," and Capt. W. Harry Boyd, Col. Henry Royer and Capt. John A. Schweers, members of the Board of Directors.

It was decided to apply to Court for a charter for the new organization and Capt. S. R. Russel, Capt. John A. Schweers and Capt. John T. Boyle were named a committee to make proper acknowledgement, before the County Recorder, under the Act of Assembly of 1874 and its supplement. The term of the Association was made perpetual. A constitution and by-laws were framed by a committee composed of Capt. D. A. Smith, Major Levi Huber and Capt. John A. Schweers.

It was on July 18, 1887, that the next meeting of the Association was held. The charter, granted by the Court, was presented and accepted. The constitution and by-laws were formally adopted. A committee on ways and means to finance the monument proposition, was named as follows: Capt. S. R. Russell, General

J. K. Sigfried, Col. J. G. Frick, Capt. Richard Rahn, Major Levi Huber, Thos. A. Reilly, Lieut. Chas. Saylor, P. D. Helms and A. W. Schalek.

Though several sites were proposed for the monument, some favoring the grounds surrounding the court house and others a location in one of the local cemeteries, it was finally decided to place it in Garfield Square. Permission to do this was procured from the Borough Council by a committee consisting of Major Levi Huber, Col. J. G. Frick and Capt. John A. Schweers.

How Monument Was Evolved

Upon resolution, offered by General J. K. Sigfried, a committee, consisting of Capt. John T. Boyle, Capt. D. A. Smith, Major James Ellis, Major Heber S. Thompson and Hon. D. B. Green, was named to consult with artists and report on a design for the monument and the material to be used in its construction. It was named the "Monumental Committee."

On Sept. 23, 1887, Major Levi Huber, chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, reported a list of committees to work in various parts of the county to solicit funds to cover the expense of providing the monument, a number of people subscribing for life memberships, receiving engraved certificates.

Decision was made at a meeting, held on Dec. 26, 1887, to have Artist August Zellers submit the design and Richard C. Collins erect the granite work. The figures, for the monument, chosen, were: An infantry soldier, in full dress uniform, at parade rest; A cavalryman and an artilleryman with ramrod at rest, and a sailor in full uniform, also at rest, the whole to be surmounted by the figure of the Goddess of Liberty.

It was not all plain sailing about having the soldiers' monument placed in Garfield Square. On March 23,

1889, Moreton et al, went into court and objected to laying out a park in the center of the Square, 30 feet wide and 150 feet long, which was the plot of ground turned over by Town Council to the Monument Association.

Legal technicalities were adjusted after there was an agreement as to the following: "That the monument be erected as contracted for; and fight, if it were necessary, over the ground to be used, after the monument was erected," There was finally established coordination in the views of the property owners and the matter was dropped. Nothing further of a legal or other type of hindrance was experienced in pushing the monument project through to its happy climax and dedication.

On motion of General Sigfried it was decided that the stone work of the monument be entirely of granite and the figures of bronze.

A committee consisting of Captain D. C. Henning, Hon. James B. Reilly and Dr. D. W. Bland, in conjunction with President Henry Royer, was named to select an orator to officiate at the unveiling of the monument. Colonel J. G. Frick, chairman, Hon. D. B. Green, R. H. Koch, Esq., Lieutenant Hugh Stevenson and A. W. Schalek. were designated a committee on arrangements. It was decided that a military and civic parade should be associated with the unveiling which was originally fixed for Labor Day, Sept. 7, 1891.

In order to give General Horace Porter, a brilliant commander of the Civil War, opportunity to attend the ceremonial and deliver the oration, unveiling, on motion of Richard H. Koch, was fixed for not later than October 1st.

Invitations, after that date was decided upon, were issued to Gov. Robert E. Pattison of Pennsylvania, and his staff, the various military

and civic organizations distinguished officers of the Civil War, Senators, Congressmen and the public, in general, to participate in the parade and ceremonies.

General J. K. Sigfried was chosen Chief Marshal with power to appoint his staff and sub-marshals and aids. The work on the monument then progressed rapidly until it was completed and all was ready for the formal dedication.

Pottsville's Role As Host

But few buildings, along the line of parade, were without decorations while, in all parts of the town, bunting and flags were generally displayed. "Open House" was the rule. The railroads carried thousands of visitors from all points of the compass to Pottsville, among them many people of prominence. Numerous G. A. R. Posts and soldiers' organizations also fire companies came to the Schuylkill County seat. The Shenandoah Rescue Hook and Ladder Company were entertained as the guests of the West End Hose Company. A special train of 13 cars brought the Ringgold Light Artillery, First Defenders and other patriots, of Reading, headed by the Famous Ringgold Band. On the rear of the train there was a miniature cannon mounted.

The First Defenders were fed on the second floor, back of the Bannan building on South Centre St., the tables being presided over by Miss Clara Potts and the Misses Conrad. The Grand Army were taken care of by Contractor E. J. Gaynor, 40 tables being located on the vacant lot at Coal and Norwegian Sts., where 700 dined at one time.

The militia were looked after in the lumber yard of Wm. Buechley. The committee, in charge of the citizen soldiery, comprised: Brigade Quartermaster Strouse, Sergeants

Epler and Knoll, of Company F; Sergeant Boltz, of Company H; Corporal Wm. Sweet of Co. F; Sergeant Hoffman, Corporals Wilson, Burnett and Hoepstine, with Privates Williams, Cheney and Snyder, all of Co. H; Privates McGuire and Stevenson of Co. F. The Cadets prepared for the Harrisburg Unit, in the northern end of the Sheaffer building and the St. Bernard Beneficial Society entertained in the Whitney building, corner of Centre and Union Streets. The fire companies all had "open house." The American Hose Co. provided several wagon loads of food and refreshments. The Good Intent fenced off Go-Forth Alley and spread, in it, tables loaded with food.

The Phoenix, Humane and West End provided, abundantly, as did also the Good Will. All of the halls of the patriotic organizations were used as sources of entertainment.

On the previous night, Centennial Hall staged a brilliant assembly with the Governor and his staff as guests of honor. Gerhard's Orchestra furnished the music for the occasion.

The Governor was a silent spectator, not dancing, but engaged in animated conversation with many friends. The Governor's Staff was represented by: Adjutant General McClelland, Surgeon-General Reed, Commissary-General Edwards, Colonel Krumbahr, Colonel Tyson, Assistant Adjutant-General, Colonel O. E. McClelland; Colonels Wilson, Bradley, Ryon, West, Seeling, Wilbur, James, Duffy and Color-Sergeant A. W. Bergstresser.

Lieutenant Colonel George W. Ryon, of the Governor's Staff, entertained Pennsylvania's chief executive, Robert E. Pattison, as his personal guest. Colonel Ryon was a son of the late Ex-Judge James Ryon. His brother, John P. Ryon, is an esteemed citizen of this community.

Description of Monument

The monument was constructed by Contractor Richard C. Collins; August Zellers was the architect and artist designer; John Rehnert, of Yorkville superintended the mountain foundation stone that was used. The monumental pile begins about eight feet beneath the surface. The foundation is of heavy mountain stone laid in cement. Underneath is left an aqueduct which will admit of sewer or water pipes that may be required at any time, so that its broad and deep foundation may not be disturbed on that account.

The monument, as the base, is 18 feet square of Quincy granite. It is finished, rock-faced, with margin drafts. All above is of Barre, Vermont, granite.

There are 53 pieces in the massive structure weighing over 100 tons. The different parts are known as first, second and third bases, plinth for the first die and pedestal upon which the four soldiers stand, the cap on the first die, plinth for the second die and polished columns to rest on.

The cap on the second die base receives the fluted column which is surmounted by a Corinthian cap elaborately carved. This piece, alone, required six months to finish and the whole is surmounted by a size-and-a-half bronze statue of the Goddess of Liberty, with extended right hand bearing the votive laurel wreath of fame, facing the east.

On the four polished sides of the second die are inscribed: "Fort Sumter," "Emancipation," "Gettysburg," "Appomattox," in raised letters.

On the four corners of the third base are life-size bronze statues of the four armies of the service at parade rest. The infantry is represented on the southeast corner; the navy on the northeast; artillery on the

southwest; and the cavalry on the northwest.

The inscriptions on the monument are: East side: "Erected 1891. This memorial is the tribute of Schuylkill County to her brave sons who served in defense of the Union, 1861-1865"; north side: "from a population of 90,000, Schuylkill County, during the War of Secession, gave the army and navy of the Union 13,000 volunteers"; west side: "Love, Honor, Renown and lasting remembrance for those who fought for freedom and an imperiled country. May posterity profit by their example. *Duice et decorum est pro patri mori*"; south side: "The Washington Artillery and National Light Infantry, of Pottsville, 246 men, were a part of the 530 Pennsylvanians who first arrived for the defense of the national capital, April 18, 1861."

Parade of Nine Divisions

Associated with the dedicatory ceremonies was a parade which moved, promptly, at noon, over the following route: Up Centre Street to Minersville Street, to Second, to Market, to 14th, to Mahantongo, to Centre, to Morris; countermarching up Centre, passing the reviewing stand, at Norwegian Street, where the Chief Marshal and distinguished visitors were stationed.

The great parade moved in nine divisions. General J. K. Sigfried was chief marshal, and Captain D. C. Henning, chief-of-staff, with aides: Major S. A. Losch, Captain Frank Barnhart, Captain W. Harry Boyd, Captain Clay W. Evans, Captain Richard Budd, Captain P. D. Helms, Major James May, Hanson Atkins, Harry Halberstadt, Wm. Madison, Marmaduke P. Fowler, Wm. Buechley, Captain Wm. E. Jones, Wm. Yuengling, Geo. C. Clausen, Major Frank Day, George W. Kennedy, Richard H. Bergeman, Colonel Thos. H. Rickert and Bugler Morgey.

First Division—General J. P. S. Gobin, head of the Third Brigade of the National Guard of Pennsylvania, marshal, with aides, Major Wm. H. Egle, brigade surgeon; Major H. P. Moyer, quartermaster; Major W. A. Coolbaugh, commissary; Captain Seidel, commissary sergeant; Myer Strouse. The Eighth Infantry was represented by ten companies, the Schuylkill County commands being B. of Tamaqua, Captain G. Warrington; E. of Mahanoy City, Captain Andrew Comrey; F, of Girardville, Captain E. C. Wagner; H, of Pottsville, Captain Geo. A. Harris; K, of St. Clair, Captain W. H. Holmes; Third Brigade Band.

Among the regimental staff officers were: Lieut. Colonel T. F. Hoffman, of Shamokin, father of H. C. Hoffman of the "Republican"; Major Wallace Guss, of Tamaqua; Surgeon, Dr. Jas. S. Carpenter, of Pottsville; Quartermaster, W. T. Richardson, of Mahanoy City; Commissary Sergeant, L. V. Rausch, of Mahanoy City; Hospital Steward, F. R. Pershing, of Schuylkill Haven.

In the Fourth Infantry were eight companies, among whom were: E of Hamburg, Capt. Charles F. Seaman; F. of Pottsville, Capt. E. D. Smith; G. of Pine Grove, Capt. J. W. Umbenhauer. The Pottsville Cadets, Capt. James S. Carpenter, 3rd, also marched with this regiment. Among the Fourth Infantry staff officers represented were: Major John P. Earnest, of Pine Grove; Surgeon, Major J. H. Potteizer, of Hamburg; Asst. Surgeon, Lieut. G. H. Halberstadt, of Pottsville.

Colonel O. C. Bosbyshell, a First Defender, was marshal of the Second Division which comprised all of the First Defender Commands, including Pottsville's National Light Infantry and the Washington Artillerists.

John W. Conrad was marshal of the Third Division heading the Tremont

and Pottsville Commanderies of the Knights of the Golden Eagle.

The Sixth Division, comprising Schuylkill County Tribes of Red Men, was marshalled by John R. Saylor.

H. H. Seltzer was marshal of the Seventh Division, in which were the P. O. S. of A. Camps of the county, S. H. Zimmerman and G. H. Eckenrode officiating as aides. The county Sons of Veterans and members of the Bovine Association brought up the rear of the patriotic contingent.

John F. Bushar was marshal of the Eighth Division. His aides were: Walter Reinhart, Joseph Davis, John Alles, William Pyle, Larry Rosenberger, Joseph Hartzell, and Matthew Fox. The fire companies, of Pottsville and the county, were assigned to this division.

The Ninth Division, the last of the big parade, comprised G. A. R. Posts. It was marshalled by George L. Brown.

Some of the guests, in carriages, in the parade, were: Governor Robert E. Pattison and staff; General M. McGregg, of Reading; Colonel Benson, of Philadelphia; Gen. Rusling, of New Jersey; Major James Ellis, of the 48th Pennsylvania Infantry; Major Grant Weidman, of the 173rd; General Horace Porter, Col. Henry Royer, Capt. John A. Schweers, Hon. Levi Maisch, Hon. C. L. Pershing, Hon. O. P. Bechtel, Geo. G. Boyer, G. A. R. Department Commander; Thos. J. Stewart, Adjutant; General Cowan, Capt. Caldwell, Hon. J. H. McClintock, Mifflin County; Captain J. M. Cooper Michael Fritz, 95 years old, of Friedensburg, veteran of the War of 1812; James C. Niece; 16 First Defenders in carriages; Judge D. B. Green, Colonel Jacob G. Frick, A. W. Schalck, Dr. D. W. Bland, Hon. J. B. Reilly and S. B. Briscoe.

Monument Unveiling Ceremonies

Immediately after the parade, the unveiling ceremonies were conducted

at the site of the monument. The program opened with prayer, after a selection by the Third Brigade. The Rev. Dr. Jacob Belville, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, made a fervent invocation. Then the veil was pulled aside, disclosing the imposing pile of granite, the cords being placed in the hands of four wounded veterans of the Civil War, viz., William McElrath, William Burns, George Rose and Caleb Kinzi. Then Hon. James B. Reilly proposed three cheers, which were given with a will.

After the Ringgold Band, of Reading, played an appropriate selection, the orator of the day, General Horace Porter, made a ringing speech of patriotic eloquence, in which he referred to the great service which Schuylkill County soldiery had given the Union cause during the War of the Rebellion; the signal part the citizenship played in that long internecine strife, not only associated with furnishing men, but in looking after their families and relatives, who were left at home. He especially praised the stupendous task entailed, involving finances, time and labor, in successfully procuring and placing the monument.

The Third Brigade Band rendered a medley of war melodies, and then Governor Robert E. Pattison, Pennsylvania, formally presented medals to the First Defenders present, on behalf of the Commonwealth, in recognition of their timely service at Washington, D. C., their prompt arrival saving the nation's valuable archives from pillage by the Rebel hordes assembled on the other side of the Potomac, waiting to begin northern invasion.

General David McM. Gregg, soldier hero of the famous "Peninsular Campaign" of the Civil War, made an able and pertinent response on behalf of the First Defenders. The

Ringgold Band played again, and the benediction was pronounced by the Rev. William A. Duffy, rector of St. Patrick's Catholic Church. Accompanied by the Third Brigade Band, the program was brought to a close with community singing of the national anthem, "America." Later the Ringgold Band serenaded Father Duffy at the parochial residence.

Noted Visitors Entertained

Prominent visitors to Pottsville, associated with the monument dedication, were: H. Stanley Goodwin, General G. R. Snowden and Captain James A. G. Campbell, who were the guests of Judge D. B. Green; General John Palmer and Colonel John P. Nicholson entertained by Dr. D. W. Bland; General W. H. H. Davis, by the Rev. Dr. Jacob Belville; Hon. Levi Maisch, by Hon. James B. Reilly; Colonel Thomas J. Stewart and Colonel George Boyer, by George M. Bretz; General Lewis A. Wagner, Captain Daniel Caldwell and Colonel Sylvester Bonnafan, by Major Heber S. Thompson.

Captain R. Bruce Ricketts, Hon. J. D. Cameron and Colonel James Campbell, by William Atkins; General D. H. Hastings and Colonel Dale Benson, by Hon. D. C. Henning; Captain M. J. Wray, Major James May and Captain Savory Bradley, by A. C. Milliken; Hon. M. S. Quay, General Richard A. Donnelly and Captain Edward Stetson, by L. C. Thompson; Colonel Rogers, by James R. Henderson, Esq.; Colonel Z. P. Boyer, by George M. Roads, Esq.; Colonel S. K. Schwenck, Colonel Joseph W. Crawford, Captain R. L. Jones and Hon. R. T. Morrison, by Guy E. Farquhar, Esq.

General D. McM. Gregg and wife Colonel Wylie T. Wilson, Captain T. R. Stetson and Captain Alexander Krumbahr, by Mrs. Charles M. Atkins; General W. F. Smith and Hon. Andrew G. Curtin, by E. J. Gaynor;

General William J. Bolton and Colonel John W. Schall, by General J. K. Sigfried, Captain John Roads, by F. G. Farquhar, Colonel Robert L. Orr and Colonel James F. Rustling, by Major James Ellis.

E. P. Wilbur, W. A. Wilbur and Rolin Wilbur, by J. C. Bright; Colonel Elliott and Colonel Krumbahr, by John C. Lee; Captain Frederick R. Shober, Colonel James Biddle and Colonel H. J. Sheaffer, by Walter Sheaffer, Captain James E. Barr, Captain Thomas H. Dicbie, Hon. Thomas H. McCamant, General C. F. Mander-son, Captain Levi Quier and Captain W. Gable, by Colonel William Thompson and Colonel Thomas H. Rickert; Captain John H. Weeks and Dr. Lewis W. Reed, by Dr. A. H. Halberstadt, and Major J. E. Carpenter, by Dr. John T. Carpenter.

On June 18, 1892, through Congressman James B. Reilly, two 12 pound howitzers with field carriages were loaned from the United States League Island Navy Yard, Philadelphia, to the Monument Park Association. These pointed one to the east and the other to the west. The cannon were placed in the park on Nov. 30, 1893.

Transferred To Borough Custody

Thronged to capacity was the Academy of Music, on Tuesday night, November 9, 1897, when the property of the Monument Park Association was formally turned over to the keeping of the Pottsville Borough Council. This was done at a mass meeting which tested the capacity of the building.

Prof. Frederic Gerhard's full orchestra was present and discoursed selections while the people were assembling, just prior to the opening of the program, and, also during the ceremonies.

Following a few tense moments of silence, during which the orchestra, impressively rendered the "reveille",

President Snyder, as head of the Borough Council, called upon the Rev. Dr. A. R. Bartholomew, father of Mrs. U. H. Nuss, pastor of Trinity Reformed Church, who made the invocation which was replete with patriotic fervor.

Then Colonel Henry Royer, president of the Pottsville Monument Association, was introduced who, in a ringing speech, formally turned over the title to the monument property, in Garfield Square, to President Snyder, as the representative head of the Borough of Pottsville.

In his eloquent and patriotic address, Colonel Royer referred to the precipitation of the Civil War by the firing on Fort Sumter and its capitulation on April 13, 1861; President Abraham Lincoln's call for 75,000 volunteers, on April 15th; and the response of the First Defenders; represented by five companies, two of which, the National Light Infantry, and the Washington Artillerists, were from Pottsville. He called attention to the fact that the Battalion of Pennsylvania Militia, the first troops to reach the national capital, in its defense, arrived there on April 18th. It was Colonel Royer's proud statement that, within a week, 20 more companies, from the great Commonwealth, had responded. He said that Pennsylvania could have furnished 70,000 of the 75,000 men, asked of the entire nation by the President, had the emergency demanded it.

In speaking about the part which Schuylkill County paid in furnishing men to put down the Army of the Rebellion, the orator stated that, of the 530 men, who constituted the Battalion of First Defenders, Pottsville furnished nearly half.

Showing the rare patriotism, evidenced by the people of this county, Colonel Royer went on to say that, after sending two full regiments, there was organized a third regiment for service covering a three-year

period. A fourth followed until 13,000 men had been furnished. They gave service, in the Regular Army and Navy, scattered among 162 regiments, organized from every state, in the Union, from Maine to California.

Colonel Royer was greeted, at the finish of his address, by prolonged applause that shook the house. Then Captain D. C. Henning, solicitor of

the municipal body, in a dignified manner, formally accepted the monument and park on behalf of the Borough of Pottsville, promising its perpetual care.

The exercises ended with the Benediction pronounced by the Rev. Dr. John Huse Eastman, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church. The orchestra closed the program with the "Trumpet Call" and "Taps".



Needlework Guild Formed in 1895

(From "Republican" November 11, 1933)

This is Needlework Guild Week, when everyone is asked to contribute at least one garment to be distributed to those in need.

For this reason the history of the Guild which is in charge of this worthy charity is particularly appropriate at this time, the month in which they always have their annual meeting and receive the contributions with which to carry on their work.

On September 6th, 1895, in response to an invitation issued by Mrs. A. W. Schalek and Mrs. Wm. L. Sheafer, a number of Philanthropic and public spirited women met at the Sheafer Building to organize a local branch of the Needlework Guild of America, the National organization having been founded ten years previously, and now having 665 branches in 40 states also 109 Camp Fire Groups and 56 Girl Scout Groups affiliated with it.

The Pottsville Branch was organized and the following officers were duly elected: Mrs. A. W. Schalek, Pres.; Mrs. M. J. Firey, 1st Vice-Pres.; Mrs. C. H. Tyson, 2nd Vice-Pres.; Mrs. Howell Halberstadt, 3rd Vice-Pres.; Mrs. Morris Rohrheimer, 4th Vice-Pres.; Miss Martha Lee, Treasurer; Miss Jessie R. Little, Secretary.

The directors chosen were: Mrs. Wm. L. Sheafer, Mrs. A. W. Schalek, Mrs. J. H. Umbenhen, Mrs. Cornelius H. Tyson, Mrs. J. W. Beecher, Mrs. Jacob P. Jones, Mrs. Joseph A. Archbald, Mrs. Isabelle Henning, Mrs. Leo Schwartz, Mrs. J. Harry Super, Mrs. Annette Kaercher, Mrs. Howell Halberstadt, Mrs. S. Burd Edwards,

Mrs. Philip Doyle, Mrs. Wm. Ulmer, Mrs. Murtha Quinn, Mrs. Frank Roseberry, Mrs. Lewis Grant, Mrs. Frank Hause, Mrs. Daniel Boone, Mrs. Chas. Haeseler, Mrs. Matilda R. Whitner, Mrs. Amelia P. Schall, Mrs. Carrie Wingert, Mrs. M. J. Firey, Mrs. Morris Rohrheimer, Mrs. Walter S. Sheafer, Misses Addie Rosengarten, Alice Cole, Marit Thompson, Frederika Woltjen, Carrie Bechtel, Maude Haeseler, Myra Hunt, Kate C. Cochrane, Naomi Sparks, Marie Allen, Annie Hinterleitner, Martha Lee and Jessie R. Little. In addition to the officers and directors, other original members were: Mrs. Geo. J. Goldsmith, Miss Dobson and Miss Wynkoop.

All the Churches of the city were represented in this Directorate, the Guild being undenominational, and helping the needy without regard to creed, race or color. Two or more new garments or pieces of wearing apparel or household linens, bedding or a money contribution once a year constitutes membership. A Director pledges herself to secure donations from 10 or more members besides her own annually.

Most of the help of this worthwhile organization is given locally but special collections have been made in times of National or municipal disaster and aid given beyond our borders at such times, co-operating with the National Needlework Guild organization and with the Red Cross, notably after the Dayton, Ohio, Johnstown, Pa., and the Mississippi floods, Porto Rican and Florida Hurricanes, helping American soldiers in Cuba during the Spanish-American War with

sheets, blankets, bandages, etc., and especially our own local men in Co. F. 4th Regt., and Co. H. 8th Regt., and local families of men then in the field, also those who lost everything in the disastrous Lawton's Hill fire in 1897.

The Pottsville Branch of the Needlework Guild has been in the habit of co-operating with local welfare organizations, though maintaining independence of organization and privacy of records in individual families helped by the Guild without publicity, so as to avoid pauperizing.

Many changes have been made in the local Guild's Directorate since its organization, caused by death or removal from town or resignations for various reasons, but the work has continued uninterruptedly.

Mrs. A. W. Schalek was re-elected President from year to year up until the time of her death in November 1921, since which time Mrs. Umbenhen has filled this office.

Mrs. W. L. Sheaffer, Mrs. Lewis Grant, Mrs. Annette Kaercher, Mrs. J. H. Umbenhen, Mrs. Rentz, Mrs. Milman, Mrs. George Halberstadt, Mrs. C. M. Nicholas, Miss Alice Cole and Miss Emma Whitney have served as Vice-Presidents following the original officers.

Mrs. Amelia Schall, Mrs. J. W. Beecher, Mrs. J. H. Umbenhen, Mrs. Chas. Woltjen, Miss Addie Rosengarten (from 1909 to 1917) and Mrs. Wm. F. Doyle (from 1917 to date) have succeeded the original Treasurer.

Miss Kate G. Cochran, Mrs. Matilda K. Whitner, Miss Emma Whitney, Miss Addie Rosengarten (Dec. 1901 to 1917) and Mrs. Wm. F. Doyle (July 1917 to date) have served as Secretaries. Mrs. Doyle is the daughter of the first President, Mrs. Schalek.

Delegates from the local branch have attended various National Needlework Guild Conventions and the regional gatherings in Reading.

Annual Meetings are held in October or November, when the regular donations are given by the contributing members, though many are sent in late, and help is extended to the needy at all seasons of the year, but there is naturally more demand for assistance during the winter months than during other seasons. More than a thousand garments are distributed locally each year.

For many years, these meetings and exhibitions of garments were held at the Sheaffer Building but later at the home of the President, Mrs. Schalek, but since 1921 at the home of the Secy.-Treas., Mrs. Doyle of Garfield Square.

The present officers are: Mrs. J. H. Umbenhen, President; Mrs. C. M. Nicholas, Vice-President; Mrs. Wm. F. Doyle, Secretary and Treasurer.

Directors are these officers and Mrs. C. H. Dreshman, Mrs. E. Herbert Boone, Miss Annie Pollard, Miss Bessie Rosengarten, Miss Amy Stephens, Mrs. L. K. Stoner and Mrs. Emil Weber.

Society Aids Cripples To Health

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* Nov. 13, 1933)

The Schuylkill County Crippled Children's Society is engaged in doing a wonderful work in the county, and, since they are asking for contributions to keep up this movement, it will be interesting to learn just what the motives of the Society are and what work has been done in the past.

The Schuylkill County Crippled Children's Society formed for the purpose of reclaiming crippled children of the county who heretofore were wholly neglected, was first conceived on May 11, 1927, at the Pottsville Rotary Club, during the course of one of its weekly meetings.

The members of the club immediately saw the wonderful possibilities of such a society and as a unit, decided to sponsor it. A meeting was called for the evening of May 11th, 1927, in the Necho Allen Hotel. Every Rotary Club in the county was asked to send a representative and other organizations interested in welfare work were also invited to attend.

A gratifying response was the result. The Rotary clubs of Tamaqua, Shenandoah, Mahanoy City, as well as Kiwanians, The Elks of Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Tamaqua and Pottsville had representatives present at the meeting. The Schuylkill County Welfare Association also sent a representative and the Girardville Lions and Ashland Kiwanians pledged their financial support.

It was then definitely decided to form this Society which was to care for the disabled of the county. The Pottsville Rotary Club established a fund of \$1,000 as a basic working fund. Other contributions came later and the organization started to operate.

On May 17th, 1927, the first officers were elected, replacing the temporary officers appointed at the first meeting when Norman H. Rich had served as chairman of the committee on arrangements and Frank Fisher as secretary. Both of these men were of the Pottsville Rotary Club. The officers elected on May 17th when the club actually started were: President, George Post, Mahanoy City; Vice-Pres., E. H. Suender, Frackville; Secretary, Prof. H. H. O'Day, Mahanoy City; Treasurer, Frank L. Fisher, Pottsville.

The Board of Directors consisted of: P. J. Graham, Shenandoah; Ben. H. Seltzer, Tamaqua; Dr. H. A. Holland, Mahanoy City; H. A. Reber, Sch. Haven; N. H. Rich, Pottsville; John Cleary, Shenandoah and H. F. Clifford, Mahanoy City.

The officers of the society decided to have two clinics a month, to which the crippled children should be brought. Dr. A. Bruce Gill was placed in charge and with his assistant, Dr. Theo. Orr, both of the University of Penna. hospital staff, attended these clinics regularly.

The first of these twice-a-month clinics was to be held in the Ashland State Hospital, the second, during the latter part of the month in the Warne Hospital at Pottsville. The Ashland clinic was for those north of the mountain, while the Pottsville clinic was for those living south of the mountain.

These clinics were to be dual clinics, that is operative and diagnostic. The surgeons were to operate in the morning and make examinations in the afternoon. These dual clinics were held eight months of the year, each year until October 1932,

when they were dispensed with and only one clinic a month was held. This was caused by the financial condition of the society. The present plan consists of alternating the clinics monthly between Ashland and Pottsville.

In a quiet, unassuming manner much has been accomplished by the Society since its inception. A report of the work done by the District Nurse, Miss Ethel Speidel, and the doctors who assist in the clinics shows that from October 1928 to Sept. 1933, inclusive, 67 clinics were held and 1398 patients were examined. Of that number, 927 were active cases and 441 inactive. 549 were examined at the Pottsville clinic, and 408 at Ashland. 215 patients have been operated upon, Pottsville having handled 121 cases and Ashland, 94. There were 289 adults examined, divided as follows: Ashland, 95; Pottsville, 97, and inactive cases, 97. Sixty-five cases have been discharged as wholly cured.

Since October, 1932, to September of 1933, there has been an urgent need for treatment of many cases. Four clinics have been held at Ashland and four at Pottsville; 29 operations have been performed, 14 at Ashland and 15 at Pottsville; 136 new patients have been received, 53 at Ashland, of which 12 were adults; 83 at Pottsville, of which 22 were adults. There have been 510 re-examinations, 217 at Ashland and 293 at Pottsville. Fifteen have been discharged as cured during that time. There are now 20 children from the county being cared for in hospitals for further treatment, three at the Childrens Seashore Home; eight at the University of Penna.; two at St. Edmonds Home; two at the Widener Home; four at the Good Shepherd Home and one at the home of the Merciful Savior.

During the past year, 16 paralysis cases have been examined and

placed under treatment. Practically half of the new cases reported this year have been from infantile paralysis. Miss Speidel is in charge of visiting the patients to see that the instructions given are being properly carried out and to do everything possible to further the welfare of the patients. During this year alone, 1500 visits have been made by Miss Speidel.

There are still many cases in need of attention but the Society is going to continue to do all in its power to see that all those who have become crippled and cannot secure treatment are brought to their attention in order that they may be given a chance to fully recover under proper treatment. Naturally, this work can only be carried on by the expenditure of large sums of money and the Society seldom comes before the people with a public drive for funds, relying on the generosity of those interested in the work to keep the Society in existence.

It can safely be said there is no more worthy charity than this one, which sees the practical result of its work in restoring crippled bodies to sound ones and cripples to healthy children or adults capable of leading a useful and happy life.

The officers and the directors of the society at the present time are: Pres., George Post, Mahanoy City; Vice Pres., E. H. Suender, Frackville; Secretary, Harry O'Day, Mahanoy City; Treasurer, Frank Fisher, Pottsville.

The following are the directors: P. J. Graham, Shenandoah; B. H. Seltzer, Tamaqua; Dr. D. A. Holland, Mahanoy City; Harry Reber, Sch. Haven; John Cleary, Shenandoah; H. F. Clifford, Mahanoy City; Norman H. Rich, Pottsville. The following were added during the years, Clayton E. Herb, Valley View; W. J. Rohrer, Orwigsburg; Roy Wagner, Cressona;

Joseph H. Zerbey History, Pottsville and Schuylkill County, Penna.

P. J. Nirokey, New Phila.; Clinton Tiley, Ashland ;Michael Shore, Gilberton; Dr. Jos. Luongo, Sheppton; Frank Twardzik, Shenandoah; Martin Bambrick, Thomas Ganley, both of Girardville; Chas. Goyne, Ashland; T. C.	Leddy, Coaldale; Nels Nelson, Tamaqua; Charles Gebert, Tamaqua; T. J. Evans, Coaldale; Joseph Noonan, Mahanoy City; P. J. McCarron, Pottsville; W. J. Evans, St. Clair, and George Dreibelbies, Tower City.
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Half A Century At Miners Hospital

(From "Republican"—"Morning Paper," Nov. 14, 1933)

Today, November 14th, 1933, marks the fiftieth anniversary of the admission of the first patient to the "State hospital for injured persons of the Anthracite Coal region of Pennsylvania."

Founded by an act of assembly dated June 11th, 1879, the hospital bearing the above name and now familiarly known as the "Miners Hospital," during the fifty years it has administered to the people of the anthracite region has had as its patients over 100,000 people.

The hospital came into being as a result of the applications of residents of over a dozen anthracite towns and a political deal, according to the story.

In 1879, John T. Shoener of Orwigsburg was representative of the Fourth Legislative district. Simon and Don Cameron and Matthew S. Quay were very much interested in the passing of a bill.

Simon Cameron, former secretary of war in the cabinet of Abraham Lincoln, and later U. S. Senator from Pennsylvania and founder of what is now known as Republican organization of the state, the son Don and Quay were the political triumvirate of the state and they wanted the bill (time has eliminated the knowledge of the nature of the bill) put through the house and Shoener representing his district, was in a position—as oftentimes happens in political matters—to pass or defeat it.

Shoener demanded of the political powers that a hospital be erected for the care of injured miners and that money be appropriated for the

same. The powers agreed, the Camerons and Quay got their bill through and Shoener got the Miners hospital at Fountain Springs as a result.

Shoener was an uncle of John S. Zulick, the president of the First National bank of Orwigsburg and Linn B. Zulick, Orwigsburg manufacturer. As a result of what Shoener accomplished, he remained a political power in the county until the time of his death because of the support given him by the miners of the county.

Simon Cameron came and served as president of the board of trustees while the hospital was being built. Cameron was an uncle of state Senator Luther Keefer of Cressona and of Mrs. Amelia J. Hannum of Sch. Haven, who served that community for many years as postmistress. He was a great uncle to Luther K. Hannum, the well known Methodist churchman of Pottsville.

The first president of the board of trustees from the county proper was Robert K. Allison, noted machinist of Port Carbon. Allison, incidentally of national fame as a machinist, was one of the first owners of an automobile in the country.

The Secretary of the board was Thomas J. Foster of Shenandoah. Foster was a native of Pottsville and at that time was editor of the Shenandoah Herald. He later became the founder of the International Correspondence Schools of Scranton. He still resides at Scranton. He is a brother of Harry Foster the well known plumber of this city and prominent Presbyterian Church member. The family originally resided at Third and W. Market Sts.

Other members of the board were Peter Buck of Ashland, well known hardware merchant who was treasurer of the board; John Wagner, also of Ashland; General William Lilly, well known financial and political figure of Mauch Chunk, was the political mentor of the Panther Creek and Lehigh Valley and sponsor for many of the later political highlights of the region and the late Senator Robert D. Heaton of Ashland, Hon. James B. Reilly, Pottsville congressman and noted democratic leader and attorney, was a member and Richard Flynn of Girardville, Republican politician and mineworker, completed the Schuylkill delegation.

From the Columbia county section, Edward Reese of Centralia, father of Dr. George Reese, chief surgeon of the Shamokin hospital, was a member of the board as was Alexander Fulton of Shamokin, financier and business associate of two former Port Carbon citizens, and Andrew Robertson and John Mullen who lived years ago in Port Carbon and moved to Shamokin. Dr. J. C. Biddle, whose work at the hospital later won him national fame as a surgeon became the Superintendent and surgeon and served for forty years. He specialized in injuries resulting from the mine accidents and became an authority on what for many years was one of the appalling tolls of the industrial life of America.

William F. Brady, M. D., was the first assistant surgeon. Belle Guiterman of Port Carbon, was the matron. Her brother married a sister of Charles Heebner, well known solicitor for the P. & R. Railroad who died recently in Phila. She was a sister of Will Guiterman, later a well known editor of Northumberland and Schuylkill regions.

The importance of the hospital from the very beginning was evidenced in the list of outstanding residents

of the region who served on the various boards. The list includes in addition to the above: Emanuel Bast, Ashland; Charles F. King, Mahanoy City and Pottsville; Daniel R. Miller, Pinegrove; Peter E. Buck, Ashland; Richard Flynn, Girardville; A. P. Carr, M. D., Saint Clair; John Parker, Mahanoy City; P. D. Helms, Pottsville; E. C. Wagner, Girardville; Heber S. Thompson, Pottsville; Thomas M. Righter, Mt. Carmel; A. P. Blakslee, Mt. Carmel; Michael Merkel, Minersville; William H. Lewis, Shaft; William Spencer, Minersville; D. J. Langton, M. D., Shenandoah; William A. Marr, later a Judge of Schuylkill County, Ashland; George M. Davies, Lansford; Grant Herring, Sunbury and Bloomsburg; John M. Humphreys, Centralia; Daniel Duffy, Pottsville; Robert D. Heaton, Ashland; Christian Schmidt, Shenandoah; Benjamin J. Evans, Mt. Carmel; John H. Davis, St. Clair; Theodore W. Riley, Centralia; C. M. Bordner, D. D. S., Shenandoah; Harrison Ball, Mahanoy City; W. R. Adamson, St. Nicholas; B. F. Bartho, M. D., Mt. Carmel; Jean B. Chamberlain, Harrisburg; Jacob Berger, Coal-dale; Mary Vaughn Lachenmeyer, Lansdowne; Charles H. Wascher, Frackville; A. C. Silvius, Pottsville; C. Fred Beck, Mahanoy City; Mrs. A. F. Silliman, Mrs. Emilie Riley, Centralia; Charles T. Straughn, Shenandoah; Morgan Bevan, Ashland; Judge G. E. Gangloff, Sch. Haven; Charles B. Williams, Wade; Frank W. Leib, Pottsville; Mrs. Hawthorne Ball, Mahanoy City, and A. A. Laubenstein, Ashland.

First Ground Secured In 1880

The ground for the hospital was obtained January 1st, 1880, the first conveyance being from Robert C. Wilson and wife of 3.45 acres in Butler Twp. for \$1.00. The next plot was purchased Jan. 1, 1880 from the

P. & R. C. & I. Co. comprising 8.28 acres for \$1.00. On the same date, another grant from the Preston Coal and Improvement Co. comprising 7.17 acres was conveyed for \$1.00.

The next conveyances were twenty years later when Elias Dornsife and wife transferred 1.23 acres for \$125.

Six more acres were donated by the P. & R. C. & I. May 16, 1905.

Elias Dornsife and wife on May 29, 1908 sold a plot of ground for \$355 for 2.48 acres, completing the present hospital grounds of not quite 30 acres.

In 1907, the commonwealth purchased eight acres of ground from Albert Thompson and wife situated six miles from the hospital for \$10,000 upon which a reservoir for the water supply was erected.

The hospital property valuation fixed on a cost basis today is \$412,800 but its actual value is far in excess of that amount.

The first structures were the wards, administration buildings, living quarters, operating room, stable and laundry costing \$83,000.

The first addition was the gatekeeper's lodge, made possible by donations of money by the Girard Estate. Ex Judge Edward M. Paxson and Hon. George D. McCreary. This was in 1895.

In 1898, the nurses home was built at a cost of \$20,000. In 1904, the Children's Ward, a ward for burned patients and private room was built at a cost of \$35,000.

In 1910, a ward was built for surgical cases of women, costing \$10,000. Four years later, an isolation building was added at a cost of \$5,000.

On August 17, 1916 the Lins Memorial, a solarium, was added at a cost of \$5,000. This memorial was in memory of Charles Lins of Brooklyn and was erected by his widow, Mrs. Caroline Lins, a member of the Zimmerman family of Sch. Haven. Mrs.

Lins resided at Ashland for some years before removing to Brooklyn.

Memorial Addition

In 1920, the largest and most substantial of the additions was completed. It was a \$200,000 memorial to Dr. J. C. Biddle, surgeon in chief and was built under his personal direction from funds donated by the people of the county. The building contains, on the first floor the dispensary, waiting room, X-Ray room and private rooms. The second floor is a large ward for men while the third floor is fitted out as private rooms, furnished by public spirited citizens. The fourth floor is the maternity department and delivery room. The nurses home, housing 60 nurses was added in 1929.

The reports show no record of dedicatory services for the first structures but Governor Martin G. Brumbaugh dedicated the Lins Memorial while Governor Wm. C. Sproul, officiated at the dedication of the Biddle memorial.

The hospital when first opened had a capacity of 56 beds. The hospital as now operated has a capacity of 240 beds.

First Report of Dr. Biddle

The first report of the hospital as filed by Dr. J. C. Biddle in 1885 showed the abstract of the cases treated up to Nov. 30th, 1884.

It shows a total of 313 cases, of which number 279 were returned as cured, fifteen as having died, fifteen as improved and 4 as unimproved.

The report showed that even at this early date the hospital was beginning to perform the functions for which it was created—the relief of the injured miners—and fully two-thirds of the cases listed were those of fractures, burns, cuts, wounds and amputations resulting from mine and railroad mishaps. The hospital was originally incorporated for the treatment of the

injured in the following order of admission: "Injured about the mines, injured on the railroads, injured in the workshops and laboring men." This precedence still holds good for admissions to the hospital. The first patient was Charles Jones, of Shenandoah, who was treated for a knee injury sustained at the old Kohinoor mine.

The second patient was Michael Whalen who came in on the same day, Nov. 14, 1882, who had a fractured leg.

John Schistle, another employee of the Kohinoor, was the third patient. He had his ankle hurt.

Five patients were admitted in November all told and twelve in December. January had 27; February had 27 also; March, 23; April, 26; May, 36; June, 24; July, 25; August, 24; September, 28, and October, 20. The terrific mine toll of the region was evidenced in the first reports. Forty-three spine injuries were reported the first 12 months with three skull fractures and dozens of broken legs, arms and shoulders, indicating that the protection of the "top" had not reached anywhere near perfection. There were 18 cases of burns reported.

In his report Dr. Biddle said: "We have been saved there is no doubt upon the work done. Many persons believed that the men would not leave their homes to be cared for at the hospital, but when the true character of the institution became known they were quite willing to pass their firesides, going directly from the mines to the wards. That many lives have been saved there is no doubt. There are miners today who are living monuments to the projectors of this great charity."

He continued, "I have had a number of female patients apply to me for treatment for some injury received, but not having room for them

I had to advise them to go elsewhere."

Even in these early days, Br. Biddle was envisioning in the future the "Crippled Children's clinics" and some of the magnificent work which he himself later performed upon the deformed children of the region.

He said in his report, "Mothers with their children on their arms with deformities have implored me times without number to operate on their beloved ones."

Many no doubt could be restored to future usefulness by the proper operations and the care of trained nurses and vigilance of physicians.

"Can the proper provision be made for them? With our limited capacity it is impossible."

Fifty years later the hospital, located in a paradise of the Schuylkill mountains surrounded by beautiful foliage and reached by concrete roads from every section of the county, has almost reached the heights that Dr. Biddle had visioned.

The report for the last biennium shows 7,810 patients admitted. Of this number, 438 were injured about the mines, 10 on the railroads and 336 injured in and about workshops and laboring men.

Two hundred and sixty-three were injured in auto mishaps, a contingency that the founders of the hospital had no conception of.

Injured women and children accounted for 324 of the cases.

That the hospital has expanded over its original requirements is shown by the 6429 medical and semi-medical cases treated.

Last year, there were 188 deaths at the hospital and 260 births. The daily average number of patients in the hospital last year was 150.

In the obstetrical ward of the hospital the physicians are pointing to what is almost a record. Not a mother or child has been lost in the hospital in five years.

Mr. Zerbey Investigated Hospital

At various times since the opening of the hospital, and particularly in the early days, was the hospital under fire, and state investigators were sent in to determine the cause of the complaints. At every investigation, Dr. Biddle was found to be conducting the institution admirably, and the complaints were found to be due, not to lack of ability on the part of the superintendent, but to lack of proper facilities and to crowded conditions.

In the year 1886, charges of mismanagement were made. The Board of Charities decided upon an official investigation before the state appropriation would be paid. The hospital was the only charitable institution in the United States that was being entirely supported at state expense, and each time the appropriation was called for from the Legislature, the enemies of the hospital would file objections, and the Board of Public Charities would oppose payment of the money, demanding that the state only pay for keeping the building and grounds in repair, and that the maintenance be provided by the patients themselves, or by someone for them.

So many anonymous and signed articles had appeared that the late J. H. Zerbey, editor of the "Republican," decided to investigate the matter for himself, so on June 16th, Mr. Zerbey went north of the mountain, visiting the towns in that section, and interviewing many residents to see what he could find out about the hospital and its management. He then went to the hospital, had full access to all parts of it, and thoroughly acquainted himself with every detail, asking questions and finding out information for himself, being unaccompanied by any of the officials of the institution. After spending two days there, interviewing the patients, he returned home and pub-

lished an unbiased account of the investigation, quoting the patients in the hospital, and giving their own opinion as to what they thought of the institution. He found the opinions so overwhelmingly in favor of Dr. Biddle that there was no question that the stories which has arisen were based on political enmities, and not on fact. He presented his report to the Board of Charities, and it was accepted as a true account of the situation.

Annual Reports Show Changes

The vast changes in hospitalization during the past half century is focused time and again in succinct paragraphs contained in the annual reports of the hospital.

The report of 1896 says: "Women nurses were introduced on July 1, 1894. The substitution of gentle, refined and reliable trained women nurses for the rough, untrained, irresponsible and unreliable men whom we were formerly compelled to accept has been of very great benefit."

The same report contains a request that electricity be installed for lighting and that ventilating fans be introduced. Gas had been used previously.

The substitution of women nurses resulted in the opening of a training school for nurses July 1st of that year.

Miss Minnie Roberts Trout was the first directress of nurses, resigning in 1895. She was succeeded by Miss Ella E. Patterson of St. Luke's Hospital, Denver.

The first class of nurses consisted of seven and from that time on ten or more nurses have graduated each year.

The Present Staff

The present staff of the hospital consists of Superintendent, G. Harold Weiss. Mr. Weiss, former head of the schools of Pottsville and Chester,

is a son of G. H. Weiss for many years superintendent of the schools of Schuylkill County. He took over the administration of the hospital on August 16 succeeding Horace D. Lindemuth of Auburn who had held the post for a period of nine years until his death in October, 1932.

Mr. Weiss, immediately upon the assumption of his duties, began the formation of extensive plans for the further improvement of the hospital buildings and grounds and considerable work has already been done on the outdoor improvements, consisting chiefly of landscaping and the laying out of walks, etc.

The interior of the structure has been completely renovated during the past few months and a large portion of the equipment has been overhauled. Clinton F. Tiley of Ashland, is assistant Superintendent. Mr. Tiley, now in his 25th year as a member of the hospital staff is in complete charge of all the hospital records and other data. For the period during which the hospital was without a superintendent, Mr. Tiley was in charge and is now actively engaged in assisting

Mr. Weiss in bringing the hospital to the highest possible point of efficiency. He is a son of the late Joseph Tiley of Ashland and for a number of years was a resident of Girardville.

The permanent members of the hospital staff include: Dr. G. A. Robinhold of Auburn, acting chief surgeon. He is a son of Dr. L. C. Robinhold and a graduate of Jefferson.

Dr. P. B. Mulligan, Roentgenologist, of Ashland and is a native of Harrisburg.

Dr. James L. Erlenbach, medical director. He is a graduate of Tufts and a native of Harrisburg.

Dr. Clifford J. Ulshafer, of Oneida, Schuylkill Co. and a graduate of Temple. He is assistant surgeon.

Miss Elizabeth F. Wenk, of Homerville, is directress of nurses. She is a graduate of the hospital training school.

The assistant directress of nurses is Catherine Klees, of Fountain Springs, also a graduate of the hospital school.

Fifteen supervising nurses and forty-five student nurses complete the staff.



Good Will Hose Co. Live Wire Organization

(From "Republican," November 15th, 1899)

The "Republican" of Nov. 15th, 1899, contained an account of the first meeting of the Good Will Hose and Engine Company in its new engine house which was formally occupied on Nov. 14th, 1899.

Believing that they should assume the right of fire protectors for Jappa and its immediate neighborhood, a coterie of young men some fifty years ago decided that a fire company was needed for the purpose. The result was the organization of the Good Will Hose Company, now located at Nichols and Coal Sts., and one of the seven units of the Pottsville Fire Department.

Some time prior to March 28th, 1882, a meeting of these men was held at the home of Fred Leffler and after a spirited session that lasted for several hours it was decided to organize a fire company. The men given credit for the organization of the Good Will and the original members who attended the first meeting were: Louis Miller, Christ Kull, Geo. Hock, John Krieg, John Kienzle, Frank Moser, John Eisler, Geo. Roth and John Young.

On May 23, 1882, the company was chartered, the petition being signed by thirty-three members. The first officers were: Dennis E. Deasy, President; Louis Miller, Vice-President; T. W. Saylor, Rec. Secretary; George Hock, Treasurer; John Krieg, Jr., Fin. Secretary; Trustees, John Krieg, Sr., P. Krieg, Martin Nobling and Jesse Simons, Foreman. Others whose names appeared on the charter were: John Kienzle, Joseph Horning, Christ Kull, Henry Young, Joseph Herzog, Henry Hock, George

Meade, John Hock, Joseph Roth, Fred. Leffler, Frank Moser, Charles Steidle, John Young, Martin Nobling, Ernest Meyer, John Eisler, John Myer, Chas. Layer, Thos. Picton, Chas. Miller, George Roth, Chas. Floel and John Nettinger.

The first official meeting of the company was held on the evening of March 28, 1882. It resulted in the election of the above named officers. A committee was appointed to make inquiries as to the cost of a charter. An assessment of fifty cents on each member was made so that on July 11, 1883, the charter was received as of May 1st, 1883. The lawyers who were engaged to negotiate for the charter were Hon. R. H. Koch and the late Attorney W. John Whitehouse. The charter was granted by the late Hon. Cyrus L. Pershing.

It was not long after receiving the charter that the officers of the company started negotiating for the purchase of a hose cart. On July 9th, 1883, they placed an order for the first piece of apparatus. It was received, several months later, in November, from W. W. Wunder of Reading, at a cost of \$634. The first steam engine was bought in December of 1885 from the Humane Fire Company at a cost of \$800 with \$100 being paid as the initial installment; \$200 on the first of May, 1886, and the balance of \$500, in equal payments, on the first day of April of each year for a period of five years.

In order to properly house this apparatus, a committee was appointed on May 29, 1883 to arrange for plans and specifications for a hose house. After considerable work on

the part of the committee, they succeeded in getting the borough council to build a hose house and on April 1st, 1885, the new building was turned over to the committee. From that time on the Good Will grew to great proportions.

The first real steam fire engine, a new La France, was received on the 27th day of November, 1893, at a cost of \$3,500 which was partly paid for by the money received from the sale of the old engine to the Orwigsburg Fire Co. About March, 1896, a committee negotiated for a loan of \$500 to purchase horses, wagon and harness. In December, 1898, a beautiful hose wagon was purchased at a cost of \$375 from Joseph Schablein. It was equipped with Babcock extinguishers.

The first hose house was erected on what is known as Prospect Street and it was occupied by the Good Will boys until May 1st, 1899, when the company's present home, at Coal and Nichols Street, a beautiful two-story brick building, was ready for occupancy. It was erected by the borough council. Fitting ceremonies marked the occupancy of the new quarters. It was on November 14th of 1899, that the company moved into its new home. The building had been under course of construction for a long period of time with the cornerstone being laid on the presentation speech in behalf of the people of Pottsville. The acceptance of the building was made by Hon. R. H. Koch, acting in behalf of the Good Will Company and its members.

The first meeting in the new engine house was held on the evening of November 14th, 1899, with President Louis Miller in the chair. The new trucks and wagons that had been purchased were safely housed and several new horses were placed in the stable in the rear. The Good Will continued to progress and a few

years later found a membership of more than 100. Today the company's membership is several hundred.

From the time the company moved into their new home at Nichols and Coal Street it became an important cog in the wheel that operated the Pottsville Fire Department. It quickly advanced in the study of fire fighting and today stands out as one of the finest units of the department. It is 100 per cent equipped, being fully motorized and modern in every respect. Two fine motor driven triple combination trucks are in the company's possession while a third pumper of the triple combination type was bought about a year ago. The costs of these trucks represents a large expenditure of money. The first piece of apparatus, a hose crab, is still in possession of the company.

The first motor driven apparatus was purchased from John Yaissle, of Pottsville. This was in 1916 during the month of May when a committee proposed the buying of the first pumper, a White, at a cost of \$4,625. The truck, white in color with gold trimmings, was received and housed on Thanksgiving Day, 1916, and on January 19th, 1922, a second truck was ordered from the Yaissle firm. This was a White Triple Combination Pumper and was bought at a cost of \$12,000. It was received and accepted on August 16, 1922, and on the following day was pressed into service. The third truck bought in March, 1933, is of the new Indiana model and is also a triple combination pumper with booster additional, bringing it up fully to date. This was also purchased through the Yaissle firm at a cost of \$7,000.

In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the formation or organization of the Good Will Fire Company an elaborate banquet was held at the Necho Allen Hotel in May of

1932. Practically every one of the several hundred members were present while many citizens of Pottsville and nearby towns were present as invited guests. After the banquet at the hotel, the members and guests paraded back to the company's engine house where further social activities had been arranged and planned.

The municipal, chronological record of important dates, in the history of the Good Will Hose Company, are contained in the following pertinent meormanda: Sept. 25, 1882, resolution passed by the Borough Council, to recognize the Good Will Hose Company No. 4, of the Seventh Ward, which had been incorporated by the Court; in May, 1883, Council purchased a lot upon which to build a hose house; Sept. 16, 1884, contract for the erection of the hose house awarded to J. Stevens & Bro., for \$2,965; November 6, 1898, the present site of the Good Will Hose Company's home purchased for \$1,600; Nov. 15, 1898, contract given to T. H. Knerr to erect the building for \$7,142; on Sept. 19, 1899, the Good Will Hose House accepted by Council.

The Good Will Hose Company has long boasted a fife and drum corps. This efficient organization, every member wearing the time-honored red flannel shirt, formerly part of the uniform adopted by every fire organization no matter where found, for many years, has headed the fire company whenever it turned out on parade.

It is interesting to state that the fife and drum corps is the outstanding feature of the newer Washington Marching Club. This organization sprang into existence during 1931. The members, during that year, were carried, in a big 'bus, to the national capital, accompanied by the elaborately-decorated "official"

private car occupied by Michael E. Lawler, a promoter of the marching club and one of its most ardent supporters.

The Good Will Marching Club has twice participated in the National Firemen and Police Association whose annual parade is always conducted as a feature of the observance of Labor Day at Washington, D. C. On the first visit of the organization, to the national capital, it was a trip much on the order of a junket with no intention of entering competition for prizes.

Such was the cordial reception which the Pottsville firemen received that they determined, on the recurring Labor Day of 1932, to contest for a prize. They made a brave showing and were able to bring home a prize, in the shape of a silver loving cup. This is carefully guarded in the parlor of the fire company and is highly treasured.

On Labor Day, of the present year, after preparations were made for a third trip to Washington, at the "eleventh hour", it was deemed advisable to abandon the trip. It is the hope of the members that they will be able to go after more prizes, next Labor Day, and that conditions will warrant the marching club putting up a strong front with new and attractive features which will enable them to add more trophies to that awarded them previously.

The officers, now serving the Good Will Marching Club, are: John DiCello, president; Robert Moser, vice-president; James B. Crouse, secretary; James Tomaino, treasurer; Harry Moser, Michael Meyers and Howard Smith, directors. Though Michael E. Lawler has served in an official capacity ever since the organization of the club as "just a member" he is still the bone and sinew of the club and give the "pep" that con-

tinues it as a decided live wire of the fire company.

The present officers of the Good Will Hose Company are: Max Eber, president; Robert Moser, vice president; Norman F. Kline, recording secretary; Edward Umberger, financial secretary; James Tomaino, treasurer; John Eisler, John F. Hanney and George Moser, company trustees; John F. Hanney, James A. Lynaugh and William A. Stephenson, fire trus-

tees; Harry Moser, Harry Miller, William Roth, James Tomaino, Chas. Moser, William Hock, Max Eber, Tony DiCello, John DiCello and Ralph Seiberling, chauffeurs.

Harold Sanders is the efficient foreman and Vincent Haverty assistant foreman. The directors are: George Creswell, Patrick Haverty, William Eisler, Norman Petrie, Harry Meyers, James B. Crouse, Henry Grim, James Brennan and Franklin Schrank.



Pottsville Club Moved To New Home

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* November 16, 1933)

"A ladies reception given by the Pottsville Club in its new home on Mahantongo Street last night was the formal opening of the handsome quarters when a large representation of its members escorted wives, sisters, daughters and sweethearts to one of the finest and best appointed club houses in this section of the state.....

"The ground floor or basement is occupied by the caretaker and his wife, on the first floor are the reception room, lounging room, billiard and game room, grill room and steward's room. The second floor is devoted to a library and reading room, a committee room and dining rooms while the new addition boasts of a fine dance hall. The third floor provides apartments for the bachelor members of the club."

So, in part, said a news item in the Republican of Nov. 17, 1910, telling of the opening of the new home of the Pottsville Club on the night of Nov. 16th.

The new home and the one occupied by the club at the present time, was located at 314 Mahantongo St., the property having been purchased from Mrs. J. B. Henderson who moved to Germantown.

The Pottsville Club has held a prominent place in Pottsville history for many years.)

In 1888, the following men, Harry Bright, John C. Guffey, D. Mc. K. Hobart, D. W. Kaercher, John C. Lee, C. H. Moore, George W. Ryon. George Sargent, Jr., and W. G. Yuengling, got together and were the instigators of the Pottsville Club. The Club was then formed, and met first in the Morris building after which they rented three rooms on the second floor of the old Loeser Building,

where the Chronicle Office now stands.

The Charter members of the club were: Henry Bright, E. P. Briscoe, E. F. C. Davis, James C. Guffey, Lewis Grant, D. M. C. K. Hobart, John M. Harris, Frank A. Hill, W. A. Hughes, J. P. Jones, D. W. Kaercher, R. W. Kear, John C. Lee, R. C. Luther, C. H. Moore, George W. Ryon, Rev. E. C. M. Rowdon, George Sargent, Jr., W. L. Sheaffer, Channing Shumway, P. A. Taylor, W. G. Yuengling and F. G. Yuengling.

The first officers of this club were: President, John C. Lee; Vice-President, W. G. Yuengling; Secretary, Harry Bright; Treasurer, D. McK. Hobart.

The men used to, we are told, gather in these rooms, and enjoy an informal evening of bridge, billiards and pool. Soon they found these rooms were not large enough for their needs so on April 3, 1891, they moved to the 2nd floor of the old Whitney Building, which is now the property of the Pottsville Water Company and occupied by the Braun School of Music. They remained there until they moved to their present quarters in 1910.

The paragraph above told of the improvements made at their new home. The officers at the time of their moving were: President, R. H. Koch; Vice-President, F. G. Clemens; Secretary, C. F. Muehlhof; Treasurer, R. Carr Wilson. The House Committee was, Paul Sheaffer, chairman; George Ellis and E. C. Luther; and the Board of Directors were: J. P. Jones, William H. Lewis, E. C. Luther, Lloyd Brandon, MacHenry Wil-

helm, G. B. Hadesty, H. E. Atkins, Pan. Sheaffer and George M. Roads.

So much for the history and instigators. Many of the members will remember the good times they had there when the series of Ladies nights were commenced, with professional entertainment; when Ed. Brown and his colored quartette entertained the guests, and Wimbley of Philadelphia was the caterer. Those were the good old days, we are told, to say nothing of the anniversary dinners which were commenced in 1912, to be held on the 22nd day of February each year. These lasted for three years, and at the first dinner Honorable Charlemagne Tower was the speaker, and at the second, Edward M. Stuart.

Then came the war, and they were stopped. The Patriotic League during the war was also organized by the Club, with Wm. J. Richards as chairman of the committee.

Ever since the very beginning of the Club they have always held open House on New Year's day until 1919, and there used to be a time when there were many more dances when ladies were invited. Then, too, the Ballroom of the Club was quite the place to hold ones wedding reception, and many of the members will remember the Assemblies held there and dinners before those dances.

There have been three stewards at the club, David Thompson, Joseph Bishop and the present one Oscar Wanner, who came in 1894.

Luncheon for men who wish to stay down town, are still served every noon with the exception of Sunday, and there are Saturday Night Smokers which are very popular.

There has always been a rule that no man under the age of twenty-five may join the club, and annual meetings with the election of officers, are held each year.

The present officers for 1933, who were elected at the annual meeting held at the Club on Saturday evening, Nov. 11th, are: President, J. Parke Hood; Vice President, J. Robert Bazley; Secretary and Treasurer, B. S. Simonds.

The officers since the beginning of the club have been: President, John C. Lee, 1888-1889; Guy E. Farquhar, 1889-1890; Frederick G. Yuengling, 1890-1899; George S. Clemens, 1899-1903; A. T. Dice, 1903-1904; W. L. Sheaffer, 1904-1905; Hon. R. H. Koch, 1905-1911; George M. Roads, 1911-1913; D. W. Kaercher, 1913-1915; G. B. Hadesty, 1915-1917; J. P. Jones, 1917-1919; Hon. MacHenry Wilhelm, 1919-1921; N. S. Farquhar, 1921-1923; John P. Ryon, 1923-1925; I. D. Beahm, 1925-1927; William E. Quinlin, 1927-1929; Harry R. Carl, 1929-1931; Charles W. Wagner-1931-1933.

Vice-Presidents: W. G. Yuengling, 1888-1889; S. B. Briscoe, 1889-1890; C. S. Clemens, 1890-1899; William Atkins, 1899-1902; A. T. Dice, 1902-1903; W. L. Sheaffer, 1903-1904; W. A. Cather, 1904-1905; F. G. Clemens, 1905-1911; D. W. Kaercher, 1911-1913; G. B. Hadesty, 1913-1915; J. P. Jones, 1915-1917; Hon. MacHenry Wilhelm, 1917-1919; E. C. Luther, 1919-1920; N. S. Farquhar, 1920-1921; John P. Ryon, 1921-1923; I. D. Beahm, 1923-1925; W. E. Quinlin, 1925-1927; W. S. Pugh, 1927-1929; William C. Green, 1929-1931; J. Parke Hood, 1931-

Secretaries: Harry Bright, 1888-1889; D. W. Kaercher, 1889-1890; Henry Sheaffer, 1890- ; J. V. Davies, 1890-1891; E. S. Newell, 1891-1893; E. D. Smith, 1893-1895; J. E. Turk, 1895-1900; W. F. Lewis, 1900-1902; J. M. Boone, 1902-1903; George Ellis, 1903-1907; C. F. Lewis, 1907-1907; J. B. Rogers, 1907-1909; C. F. Muehlhof, 1909-1917; B. S. Simonds, 1917-

Joseph H. Zerbey History, Pottsville and Schuylkill County, Penna.

Treasurer: C. McK. Hobart, 1883-1889; M. Max Bernard, 1889-1890; N. S. Farquhar, 1890-1891; D. W. Kaercher, 1891-1896 E. C. Gorsuch, 1896-1897; William L. Whitney, 1897-1898; J. E. Turk, 1898-1900;	W. E. Lewis, 1900-1902; J. M. Boone, 1902-1903; George Ellis, 1903-1907; C. F. Lewis, 1907-1909; J. V. Wingert, 1909-1910; R. Carr Wilson, 1910-1913; G. H. Kaercher, 1913-1915; C. F. Muehlhof, 1915-1917; B. S. Simonds, 1917-
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"Republican" Agriculture Show

By H. C. HOFFMAN

((From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* November 17, 1933)

Schuylkill an agricultural county!

That seemed an amusing misstatement. We knew Schuylkill as the richest county in the world in anthracite deposits. We knew Schuylkill as a mining county—but agricultural? That was preposterous.

But the "Republican" set out to prove it, and did. With the object of demonstrating the great agricultural wealth and its greater possibilities, it was determined to not merely make an assertion to this effect, but to demonstrate it.

Thus it was that on November 17 1915, the "Republican" put on a self-conceived agricultural products demonstration, a self-operated one, and, if we may be pardoned, paid for it, too. It was opened Wednesday at noon and continued until the following Saturday night.

There were doubters, naturally. There always are. They couldn't see where the people of the city could be interested in looking at fruits and vegetables, livestock and farm implements in a hall. The farmers might be interested, but they would not take the time to drive into Pottsville and go home late at night, over rough or muddy roads, which required several hours by horse-drawn vehicles, for the automobile was then not generally accepted by the farming population who needed horses and had little use for the uncertain automobile over almost impassable country roads.

For some time previously the "Republican" had been conducting a weekly farm page, written largely

from experiences of some of the staff members as well as the editor, in their home gardens or on what had become known as the "Republican" Experimental Farm. It proved an interesting as well as unusual newspaper feature and had frequent contributions from some of our county's leading agriculturists who had adopted scientific farming methods along with the old-time practices and experiences learned by a lifetime of active farming work.

The idea back of the Farm Show was to get our merchants and our farmers more closely associated into a working unit, to have it demonstrated that their interests were largely the same and that co-operation would benefit all concerned.

The Orwigsburg Fair had just closed shop and was no longer in operation. Our agricultural population had for years taken advantage of that Fair to there display their farm produce and livestock and to enjoy the thrill of horse racing, largely between county horses. The old Fair grounds were quite familiar to the older residents of our county, located near the Lehigh Valley station right in the town proper. The old race track is still there, although unused for years. Many happy memories linger of the great excitement of the Fair days when large crowds came by train and by carriages and farm wagons from the southern end of the county. They made of it a week of jollification. Added to the horse races, later came the bicycle races which were no less interesting,

since the leading contestants were Schuylkill countians who were able to successfully compete in the leading races with the bicycle experts from all parts of the country.

Keen Rivalry at Fair

If these programs could be transplanted into the present day, they would draw even more enthusiastically than they did then, for they offered real sport, real contests, genuine excitement. There was not the mere passive amusement exhibited in the present day Fairs, but real enthusiasm and a rivalry was in the air, not only on the race track, but in the exhibition buildings where the farmers brought their prize produce and their best stock in the hope of taking back a blue ribbon to be proudly displayed in the town as a real badge of honor.

The old high-wheeled bicycle races were thrillers just as well as the later day safety, although the speed was not to be compared. Then came the safety bicycle and then later the large, cumbersome pneumatic tires to replace the solid tires and which at first were received with doubt. Bicycle clubs then were found in all of the larger towns and there were regular "runs" conducted by clubs, some with the idea of an endurance test, some for speed, while others were entirely for the pleasure of the ride with a large company.

Naturally rivalries sprang up between the best riders of the various clubs and the Orwigsburg Fair gave the opportunity to settle these disputes, just as also were settled the claims of the horse owners who might come together accidentally for a short brush on the public highway and desired the opportunity to prove the worth of their horse on the race track.

Interest eventually died out and finally the Fair was abandoned.

It was not with the thought of reviving a Fair that the "Republican" inaugurated the Farm Show, although that was regarded as a potential development and led to the interest which later brought forth the Schuylkill County Fair.

Had to Arouse Interest

It required a great amount of missionary work to convince the people of the town and country that this was to be something worth while, something worthy of their best endeavors and an undertaking with which they would be proud to be connected. The interest in it naturally had to be developed during the growing season for crops to encourage the farmer to make special effort in certain favorite directions to produce better than he ever had done.

The circulation of the "Republican" in all parts of the county and largely in the farming districts was the salvation of the proposition, as it was recognized in the beginning that it would have to be. Personal visits were also needed to keep up the spirit. Leading agriculturists of the county were sought and gladly gave their co-operation. The Grange manifested deep interest in it. In town, the merchant welcomed the opportunity to display to the country people some of the things in which he took a great personal pride. They saw in it a chance for them to enjoy the fruits of the country, while the farmers would be able to enjoy the exhibition to be put on by the town merchants for their benefit.

State College Interested

State College professors were interested in the proposition. They offered their co-operation, which later was forthcoming and on no mean scale. They entered heartily into the full spirit of the affair, for they saw in it the beginning of a great educational possibility. They not

only graced the affair by their presence in large numbers, and with valuable lectures, but they added to the rare exhibits of the show to make it of more than local county interest.

When they learned the real motive back of it all they were more than willing to give everything they could to make it a complete success from the standpoint of the farmer and also from the standpoint of the townspeople.

Need of County Farm Bureau

Here was the "nigger in the woodpile"—the "Republican" in this way hoped to create a demand for a County Farm Agent to take charge of a County Farm Bureau which might be established through the success and the enthusiasm of this show. With this in mind the co-operation of the Farm Agents of some of the agricultural counties of the state was sought and likewise obtained.

There was no Farm Bureau in Schuylkill County at the time. There were few who saw any need for one. The town people saw it as a useless expenditure of money. Many of the farmers were not inclined to regard with enthusiasm the idea of having some youngster fresh out of college come here to teach them how to farm. The politicians were not agreeable to the idea, for the appointment would not be a political one and the county would have to go 50-50 with the state in the maintenance of the Bureau.

Thus with many against and few favorable, an obstacle of no mean proportions presented itself which had to be overcome by the force of enthusiasm and a demonstration of complete success and major interest.

Show Continued a Week

November came. The State Armory building on North Centre St. had been rented for the week. Our

leading business people had been interested in the idea and in their progressiveness they saw the possibilities—if it could be worked up. While the morale of the doubters of the town was being constantly buoyed, daily trips were made into the country to see the farmers, to talk with them of their prize crops, to get them interested in the proposition of giving a large part of their time for the week in the participation necessary for complete success.

They joined in the spirit of the occasion in many ways, but there was to be no chance of failure by letting it go through as a purely voluntary proposition. The week before the opening of the show, "Republican" automobiles were busy through the farming districts collecting the prize exhibits and then they were arranged for display at the armory. When the day came for the opening, it was clear to everyone that the show was destined to be a tremendous success, far beyond all anticipations of those of our people who were hopeful, though doubtful. The only thing that remained to make it a success was the interest to be manifested through attendance. The drawing power of the "Republican" was the one agent that could make that part of it complete. In brief, the hall was packed every afternoon and night.

Like a County Fair

What was it like? Well, just like a first-class wildly enthusiastic county fair. The two floors of the armory were needed for the exhibits, all around the walls and two center rows of stands. The show by the town merchants was no less interesting than that of the farmers. They were all on hand with their best foot put forward. When they realized the proportions and the complete success of the affair, they all entered into it with greater en-

thusiasm and with the all-consuming ambition to excel.

There was the demonstration of cooking as well as of foodstuffs, of latest methods of preparing foods, of the latest things in farm equipment, the latest in home furnishings and equipment. It was not by any means a display window for merchandise, but every participant tried to bring out only the absolutely new and original things.

It offered the opportunity and was taken advantage of as the first real automobile show in this part of the state. Even the two large floors were not sufficient. Doubt had been expressed that the exhibits would be sufficient to make a good showing on the main floor of the large armory, but the two floors were filled to capacity and then it was necessary to erect tents on the lot which then adjoined the armory, while on the railroad sidetrack in the rear of the hall were large, special boxcars in which prize cattle were quartered and where the visitors went to inspect them and to hear lectures on dairy cows, beef cattle, swine, chickens, etc. There was a display of some of the newest farm machinery and equipment.

Daily Farm Lectures

State College professors and State Agricultural Department heads were here as they had promised they would be and gave daily lectures on different phases of farm operations. They demonstrated to the doubters that they had knowledge of great value to the practical farmer in every line of farm work, from the care of poultry, swine and dairy cattle, to the making of butter, preserves, meat products, use of farm implements, treatment of different varieties of soil for different varieties of crops, the proper care of small fruits and orchards, the way to get

the best results from field crops, the best way to handle them and store them and the way to enjoy the comforts of city life on isolated country places.

Through it all constantly ran the vein of the Farm Bureau until finally at the close of the exhibition the idea was "sold" to farm and city population alike. Out of it quickly sprang an organization of our agriculturists who took the necessary steps for the establishment of a Farm Bureau, which will be taken up at a later date.

Winners Treasure Ribbons

There are many farmers who today have proudly displayed on the parlor wall or table the blue ribbons won at this Show for the best corn, finest potatoes, most glorious apples or the largest pumpkin. You couldn't buy these first honors which carried with them inspiration and which were the emblems of the beginning of a great work for the agricultural interests of Schuylkill county.

The show was complete, for it had accomplished its purpose. There was mumbling and chuckling all around when the "nigger in the woodpile" was finally dragged out and exposed to view.

The following prizes were awarded in the contest for the corn and potatoes grown in Schuylkill County:

Grand prize, F. Tallman; Yellow Dent corn prize winners, W. E. Brown, first; Samuel Herb, Charles Scheerer, William Knittle and Lewis Herring; White corn, Daniel Ney, first; Dr. F. W. Boyer, William Knittle, R. A. Moyer and Titus Stump.

Potato prize: Sweepstake, \$20 in gold. J. A. Klinger, Sacramento; \$10, Tallman and Brown, Porter Township; \$5, Dr. F. W. Boyer, Pottsville; subscription to "Republican," J. H. Deisher, Orwigsburg; \$2.50 in gold,

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Charles J. Shoener, Pinegrove; subscription to "Republican," W. A. Seltzer, Orwigsburg.

Flint corn prize winners, Roy Mengle, first; E. H. Paxson, R. A. Moyer, Albert Schott and Leon Eckert.

Special corn exhibit: F. Tallman,

first; Mr. Klinger, Mr. Knittle and J. Speacht.

Wheat prize winners: Kimmel, first; Scheerer and Faust.

Oats: C. H. Miller, first; W. E. Brown, George Schenck, J. S. Scheerer and A. C. Faust.

Cabbage: Irvin Ebling, first; Satowsky.



Cricket Once Popular Pottsville Sport

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* November 18-21, 1933)

"The cricket season of 1886 has ended in Pottsville. It is proposed to make an early start next year to develop an eleven which can meet the best clubs in the county." Thus ran an announcement in the "Republican" in November, 1886.

Millions of enthusiasts of these latter days who find a great deal of pleasure in baseball, basketball and football, little realize that a little more than half a century ago these sports were little known. Few there are today who know anything of the great cricket pastime brought to America by British sportsmen at a time when Rugby football had not nearly attained to the popularity which attended the activities of the former across the Atlantic.

It was as early as seventy-five years ago that cricket was the only sport attracting general interest, for pugilism was then viewed with little favor by genteel people. Cricket was played to a considerable extent even before the Civil War. After the internecine strife it still held its popularity and there were many proficient teams who played excellent matches throughout Schuylkill Co. and particularly in the area of Pottsville and contiguous towns.

Of course, after "rounders", which was the predecessor of the present great national game of baseball, was introduced, interest in cricket started to wane. With the use of the curved ball by pitchers exploiting the new sport, the death knell of cricket was sounded. Playing of the first organized baseball, in a few years, placed cricket in the discard.

But there was a certain dignity and clean interest surrounding cricket which has not been attained in baseball though it has long been realized that no sport can ever reach to the heights of popularity that is associated with the present national game. But, even today, there are some of the cricket terms which have come into general use as household words. As the bowler, in cricket, was the idol of lovers of that sport, the term today is frequently applied to mastery over certain conditions, so that to be "bowled out" means vanquished just as was the batsman whom the cricket bowler used to have at his mercy. Other usages of the cricket field terms also find a place in the current English language.

In collecting information concerning the playing of cricket, of days gone by, accuracy has been most difficult to attain. In this vicinity, few now survive who were listed on the roster of the old time cricket players. After the lapse of nearly three-score years, memory is a little treacherous so it would not be surprising to find some discrepancies in the information gathered mostly from personal interviews. The compilers feel that they have practically exhausted almost every source of data in being able to present what seems a pretty fair assembling of facts associated with cricket players and matches that, years ago, kept the blood of those who indulged in the sport at fever heat and caused tingling in the veins of the primitive audiences who watched some closely waged contests.

It appears that about 1886, there was a general revival of cricket about the entire country and a club was formed in Pottsville. During that year, in the month of August, there appeared an announcement that the cricketers would have their first practice at the People's Railway Depot, formerly known as Anthracite Park.

It was mentioned that the practice game was to be between Roseberry's and Patterson's elevens. Among the players captained by Frank Roseberry, father of Mrs. F. D. Yuengling and who was the son of John W. Roseberry and a prominent banker, were: Dr. James S. Carpenter, a well known practitioner, son of the late John T. Carpenter and father of the present Dr. J. Stratton Carpenter, of Pottsville; Rev. J. P. Hawkes, then a curate at the Trinity Episcopal Church, a nephew of Rev. Powers and who was married to Susanna Kaercher; Jacob Kline, a brother-in-law of J. W. Beecher; Wm. L. Sheafer, a son of the late P. W. Sheafer, eminent mining engineer and founder of the Sheafer Estate; F. Wiederhold; R. J. Mills, retired Pottsville business man; Frank Whitney, former clerk at the Miners Bank and a cousin of Wm. Whitney who served as President of the bank for many years; Geo. Wilson, a Mr. Moyer and Frank A. Hill, the brother of Miss Mary Hill, who conducted the Hill School on Mahantongo St., for a number of years and now residing in Pottsville, and the father of Frank A. Hill of the Hill & Suender Contracting Co.

Burd S. Patterson was the captain of the other team. He was a well known lawyer, former newspaper editor, in Pottsville and Pittsburgh and was prominent politically. On his eleven were the following: Chas. N. McGinness, cashier of the Safe Deposit Bank and prominent later in

the early promoting of baseball in the community; James Russell, a well known plumber and father of the retired Pottsville mail carrier, J. Maurice Russell; Geo. F. Helms, a prominent newspaper man, editor of the Pottsville Evening Chronicle and at the time of his death, telegraph editor on the New York Herald; John Jas. Murphy, a prominent school teacher of the Heckscherville Valley, who married a Miss Alstatt and the father of Frank J. Murphy, N. Centre St. jeweler, Donald and Clay Murphy, all of Pottsville; Elias Leonard, the son of John Leonard, county commissioner and proprietor of the Rising Sun Hotel at Second and Minersville Sts., for a number of years; Mr. Walker, Walter Whiting, civil and mining engineer and a son of a former superintendent of the Pottsville Reading Shops; Mr. Zeller, and Roy McLeod, whose sister was married to Burd S. Patterson; Geo. M. Lehman and Walter Boyer. The scorer was Geo. J. Wadlinger, for many years a prominent member of the Schuylkill Co. Bar and Judge of the Common Pleas Court, and the father of Herman Wadlinger, of the "Republican", Dr. Chas. Wadlinger of Pt. Carbon and Dr. George Wadlinger, dentist, of Pottsville, and Raymond, of Phila. The fact was mentioned in connection with this practice game that Chas. Miesse, well known coal operator and engaged in business on N. Centre St., was on the side-lines but arrived too late to play and that B. E. Troutman, who was an official of the coal sales department of the P. & R. C. & I. Co., a member of the official board of the First Presbyterian Church for years, a vocalist of note, member of the old Lotus Glee Club and the father of Atty. Benj. D. Troutman, of Pottsville, was also on hand for a short time.

The Rev. Hawkes was an enthusiastic bowler of marked ability. A

story is told that, on one occasion after having tried time and again to bowl out a batter, he exclaimed, "If I were not a domini, I would swear. Maybe it would help." A player promptly responded with "D—— it" and immediately the batter was bowled out.

According to a series of articles, compiled by Burd S. Patterson for the "Republican" about that time, cricket was started in Pottsville when Jonas Fox, an English sporting man who was living in Pottsville, as one of his means of livelihood began to give lessons in cricket playing.

First Cricket Club Organized

On May 8, 1858, the first cricket club was formally organized here, it being known as the Pottsville Cricket Club. The officers selected were: Pres., R. C. Green, founder of the Green Jewelry Store, and grandfather of Wm. C. Green; Vice. Pres., L. P. Brooks, who lived at 10th and Market Sts., and had an extensive interest in coal properties; Secy., Dr. Sillyman; Treas., Wm. Thompson, a Colonel, prominent Civil War veteran and for years President of the Miners

National Bank, an uncle of the present Wm. C. Thompson, Mrs. Elizabeth Parsons and Miss Elsie Thompson. The ground committee was composed of R. C. Green, Robert Hunt, a brother of Miss Myra Hunt, who died some years ago, and an aunt of the late Tim Davis, newspaper man, and of Miss Claire Davis; D. B. Green, a prominent attorney, Judge of the Common Pleas Court, Thos. Reilly, who later married the daughter of Charlemagne Tower.

About this time, a second club was formed, composed principally of the men who were working at the Fishbach Mill, which took the name of the United Eleven of Pottsville.

Score of First Match

On Saturday, May 29, 1858, the first cricket match ever played in this section of Pennsylvania took place between the Pottsville Cricket Club and the United Eleven, of Pottsville. The match was played on the grounds of the former at the head of Mahantongo St., near the present Col. Archbald home and the prize which was played for was a ball.

The following was the score:

POTTSVILLE CLUB			
First Inning		Second Inning	
R. C. Green, b Sower	0	1 b. w. b. Lloyd	0
Jonas Fox, tipt on wicket	5	Not out	9
F. B. Gowen, b Sower	0	B. Lloyd	2
R. Hunt st. Stks, b Sower	0	1 b. w. b. Stokes	2
H. Edmunds, c Galgh., b Stks	0	Run out	5
J. M. Wetherill run out	18	C. Stokes, b Lloyd	10
H. Snyder, b Sower	2	C. Galgan, k S+ks	1
P. Dewald, c Moreton, b Stoks	0	Run out	0
T. A. Reilly, c Lloyd, b Sower	0	C. Stokes, b Lloyd	0
D. J. Ridgway, b Sower	7	B. C. Lewis	5
E. Shippen, not out	2	B Stokes	2
Eyes	1		
	35		36
Number of balls, 60.		Number of balls, 68.	

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UNITED ELEVEN

First Inning

H. Burnish run out	3
D. D. Moreton, b Hunt	2
D. Knott, b Fox	2
J. Stokes, b Hunt	3
D. Jones, b Fox	2
A. Sower c Gowen, b Hunt	4
G. Lloyd, c. Snyder, b. Hunt	8
C. Lewis, not out	2
W. Parker, b Fox	0
J. Lewis, c Hunt, b Fox	0
J. Galligan, b Hunt	0
Byes	1

27

Second Inning

Not out	1
C. Snyder, b Fox	2
Run out	2
b Fox	0
Ridgway, b Fox	0
b Fox	0
1 b w b Dewald	11
b Dewald	5
b Dewald	4
b Fox	9
b Fox	8

42

Number of balls, 67.

The umpires were: F. B. Wallace, George Ranks. The scorers were: H. R. Edmonds, Mr. E. F. C. Davis.

Franklin B. Bowen, mentioned as a member of the team, had a state-wide reputation as an attorney, and was former president of the P. & R. Railroad Company. Harry R. Edmonds was prominent in banking circles of his time. Colonel J. M. Wetherill was a musician and prominent officer of the National Guard of Pennsylvania. Harry Snyder was a son of George W. Snyder, founder of the moulding shops on Coal St., which later merged into the plant of the P. & R. C. & I. Company's Pottsville Shops. D. D. Moreton was for many years a member of the Board of Directors of the Pottsville Water Company, the Moreton homestead being on the north side of Garfield Square. He is remembered by older residents as always deploring the use of "God's pure water" for sprinkling purposes in summer to allay the dust. He was the head of the movement of Garfield Square citizens who applied for an injunction to restrain the borough of Pottsville from granting what was regarded as an excessive sized plot for the use of the Soldier's Monument. The legal snarl was later dropped by common consent. Charles Lewis, in later years, was the superintendent of the Reading and Pottsville Telegraph Company, which merged later with the

Number of balls, 71.

Western Union. Frank B. Wallace was a prominent Civil War historian, author of books now regarded as text-books. E. F. C. Davis, the scorer, was at one time superintendent of the Pottsville Shops, and later in charge of locomotive works at Richmond, Va, was a local stereoptican lecturer and prominent in camera clubs in the town. D. J. Ridgway was a cousin of the late Miss Martha Bannan.

On June 8th, the return match was played between the two clubs, with the United Eleven winning a decisive victory, defeating the Pottsville Club by one run and nine wickets. The prize for this game was a tent valued at \$10.

In this match, D. B. Green, William Thompson and H. R. Silliman played instead of F. B. Gowen, J. M. Wetherill and E. Shippen, of the Pottsville Club, and R. Bassett, or Barrett, G. Banks and W. Brazier, who for a number of years was superintendent of the Rolling Mill of the Pottsville Iron and Steel Company, and later in charge of a rolling mill at Sparrows Point, Md., his homestead being in the 600 block of N. Centre St., instead of D. D. Moreton, D. Knott and C. Lewis, of the United Eleven.

New Club Formed

About the middle of June, the Atlantic Cricket Club of Pottsville, was

organized, and the following officers elected: President, David A. Smith, a First Defender, a tailor by trade, father of the late Edward D. Smith, Esq., his daughter, Mrs. George Bright now residing at 1239 Howard Ave.; vice-president, Frank Carter, a former land agent for the P. & R. C. & I. Company, who later married Louise Pershing, daughter of Judge Cyrus L. Pershing, Mrs. Carter now residing at 1518 W. Norwegian St., Pottsville; treasurer, Charles H. Boyer; secretary, Oliver C. Bosbyshell, prominent Civil War veteran, First Defender, and one time director of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia; ground committee—David A. Smith, T. S. Hoffman, Jonas Fox, John T. Boyle and James Focht, prominent business man, and father of Harry Focht, of 1247 W. Norwegian St.

Juvenile Teams Formed

The boys, about this time, became interested in the game, and in June, two juvenile clubs were organized, the Lillywhite Club, named for a famous English cricketer, and the Olympians. They played on Camp Hill.

The members of the Lillywhites included: Harvey Potts, son of W. W. Potts, Civil War veteran, who conducted a restaurant on Centre St. for some years, and whose sons, Samuel, member of the famous Baxter basketball team, and married to Ethel Pyle, and John, former assistant paymaster at the C. & I., both now reside in Tulsa, Okla.; G. Boyer, F. Whitney, C. Potts, T. Russel, Charles Hazzard, cashier of the Safe Deposit Bank, and father of Miss Catherine Hazzard, now employed at the Pennsylvania Bank, and Mrs. Clyde Allan, formerly of Pottsville, and now of Philadelphia; W. Griffith, W. Ramsey, father of Charles Ramsey, of 601 W. Market St.; J. Russel, B. Vas-

tine, member of a prominent mining family, having operations in the vicinity of Pottsville; F. Campbell, newspaper man of the town, and Harry C. Russel, real estate man, whose property, corner of Second and Mahantongo Sts., is now owned by the J. H. Zerbey Estate, and father of Mrs. George H. Boone, Mrs. A. W. Sheaffer and Miss Anna Russel, of Pottsville.

The Olympian Club members included: George Taylor, T. Patterson, W. Parry, Charles Loeser, founder of the Union Safe Bank and Trust Company, which had its origin in the Mt. City Building, Centre and Norwegian Sts.; Sol Foster, founder of the Pottsville Evening Chronicle, attorney, and in later years U. S. Marshall of Pennsylvania, and a brother of Harry R. Foster, of Pottsville; T. Russel, J. Atwood, C. Evans, John Clayton, owner of valuable real estate on Centre St., and uncle of Clayton Miller, of Reading, a frequent visitor to Pottsville, and R. Pomeroy.

The older men looked after the interests of the boys, and the umpires of the game were F. J. Ridgway, J. Bannan, Guy E. Farquhar, prominent attorney, one of the founders of the Pottsville Hospital, and in later years the president of the Board, and Simon Astor.

During the year, many games were played between the teams of this region which had been organized. Games were arranged with the teams from other towns, and a friendly rivalry resulted.

The Osceola and Keystone Clubs were organized in Pottsville. The players on the Osceola Club included: R. C. Luther, Centre St. business man, mining engineer, and for a number of years general manager of the P. & R. C. & I. Company; J. Cake, a well known school teacher; Isaac Beck, who was known as one

of the best dressed men in Pottsville, and was regarded as the Beau Brummel of the community; J. Clayton, Lewis Hawley, a telegraph construction superintendent, whose family afterwards conducted the Hawley boarding house in the Henry Peter Lauer home, which later became the site of the Pottsville Hospital, and later on Mahantongo St., the home at which many prominent people of town boarded; B. Reilly, Frank Ney, who conducted a shoe store on Centre St.; Clay Evans, a former sheriff; James Hodgson, the proprietor of a drug store on N. Centre St. for many years, and father of late Mrs. E. S. Fernsler; T. Patterson and Charles Loeser.

The Keystone Club was composed of: F. Campbell, C. Dougherty, Gus Taylor, who conducted a private banking institution on Centre St., and was a relative of Jack Taylor; Major J. Moorhead, prominent military man; R. Pomeroy, W. Ehler, Sol Foster, J. Atwood, B. Vastine, W. Parry and G. Bartholomew.

Port Carbon formed a club and started a series of games with the Pottsville Club which extended over a quarter of a century. Among the members of the club were: Kepley, Hilton, Stanton, G. W. Snyder, Robert Allison, prominent Water Company and bank director, owner of the Franklin Iron Works, and owner of the first auto, a Winton; Harrup, Gibson, Higgins, E. Allison and Fisher.

In July of that year, the Perseverance Club, with about 25 members, was organized at Schuylkill Haven, and elected officers as follows: President, Charles Saylor; vice-president, John W. Koons; secretary, C. H. Voute; treasurer, C. Leader; ground committee—Charles Saylor, Isaac Stauffer and John P. Bowman,

one of the forebears of Councilman John Bowman, of Pottsville.

St. Clair and Wadesville also formed clubs, and lively games resulted.

In August, a game between the Pottsville Club and the United Eleven broke up in a wrangle, and after that time, the United Eleven dwindled away until it disbanded entirely. The story goes that a ball struck R. C. Green, who was at bat, and it was claimed that he was out, leg before wicket. The umpire declared that he was not, and the United Eleven refused to abide by the decision. The umpires, D. A. Smith and Frank Carter, finally decided it to be a draw.

Among those who served as umpires about this time were S. Palmer, G. S. Strauch, J. Stokes, John Bickley, David B. Green and H. Sillyman.

Among the other Pottsville men who were playing about this time were: C. Lawton, F. Wallace, S. R. Whitney, A. Thompson, D. D. McGinnis, J. Boyle, H. Pleasants, a general in the Civil War, mining engineer for the C. & L., and commander of the 48th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers when the famous St. Petersburg Mine was planned; L. Brooke, L. Snyder, R. Potts, H. Hewitt and Jabez Sparks, the founder of the Sparks Foundry at N. George and E. Norwegian Sts., on the site now occupied by the Pottsville Foundry and Stove Company, of which John A. McFarland is the head.

In November, of that year, a match was played between the Pottsville and Tamaqua Clubs at New Philadelphia. The game was not concluded on account of darkness, but, the account of the game says that a Mr. Hopkins, a warm admirer of sports, treated the cricketers to a supper at the Central Hotel, New Philadelphia.

Up until the outbreak of the Civil War, cricket flourished. Many new teams were organized, and new playing grounds were opened. During 1859, the games were taken over to the ground lying near the Mill Creek road back of the water basin, because the former grounds at the head of Mahantongo St., were not available.

There was a keen rivalry between a team composed of Englishmen and one composed of Americans, and on August 8, 1859, 18 Americans defeated 11 Englishmen by a score of 82-50 to 58-31.

The Americans were: W. W. Jones, J. B. Sword, D. A. Smith, D. D. McGinness, John Stichter, brother of late Val Stichter, Centre St. tinsmith, relative of George and Main Stichter; George Leib, Louis Franz, E. Brehany, A. Saylor, John Bowman, L. W. Snyder, A. Allison, Joseph Kept, C. W. Snyder, D. J. Ridgway, G. H. Snyder, H. R. Silliman and R. W. Hunt.

The Englishmen were: James Mather, Jonas Fox, Austin Riley, Martin Riley, J. R. Joy, R. F. Ditchburn, R. Allison, M. Edmonds, H. E. Edmonds, J. Richmond and E. Hodgkins.

At this time, the Germantown Club, of Philadelphia, was the crack team of the country. Some of the Philadelphia Club players, feeling that the Pottsville teams were becoming too cocky, succeeded in having a challenge issued to the Pottsville team, ridiculing the idea that Pottsville would have a chance against them. On June 11th, the game came off, with Pottsville losing by 16 runs, but the Philadelphia Club acknowledged later that it was one of the toughest games they had ever played.

The Pottsville Club had its revenge on October 8th, 1859, when they went to Philadelphia and defeated the Ger-

mantown Club, the champions. They were welcomed back to Pottsville with a parade, headed by the band, and were given a big supper at Pennsylvania Hall, presided over by the Hon. James H. Campbell.

Around this time, a number of new players were noticed, as the interest in the sport grew. Among them were A. O. Thompson, Edward Hodgson, Milton Bowman, Marcus Bowman, J. Humble, W. Cake, Robert Smith, James Chadwick, Edward Flanigan, Thomas Robinson, David Shaw, John Richmond, J. Schreiner, William D. Dewees, James H. Higley, H. K. Nichols, for many years a supervisor of the old P. & R. Railway Company, and after whom Nichols St. was named; Henry Royer, prominent business man, colonel in the Civil War, and promoter of the Monument Association; Riollay F. Lee, a bank and Gas Company official for many years; Morgan Silliman, William Tregea and William Lee.

Additional clubs had been formed during 1859, and we find the Oak Hill Club, the Good Intent Club, the Tamaqua and New Philadelphia Clubs playing the Pottsville teams. During 1860, the Pottsville Club secured ground near Cressona for a playing field.

After the cricket ground at Fifteenth and Mahantongo Sts., was abandoned, a new ground had been laid out at Twelfth and Russel Sts., where during the winter season, an ice skating rink was conducted on the site of the present Silk Mill.

The longest hit ever made at the old cricket ground at the head of Mahantongo St. is credited to Theodore McGinness. The distance covered by it was from where the Heber Thompson home stood to the Clemens residence on Norwegian St., and nine or 10 runs were scored on that hit.

The distance as estimated by City Engineer George H. Steidle was 800 feet. Inasmuch as the modern baseball's longest driven hit falls much short of that distance, old time cricketers say that a portion of the cricket ground had quite a grade, so that it is possible that the ball rolled to the Clemens residence.

But then came the Civil War and the interest in cricket waned, rifles and cannon balls taking the place of the cricket bats and balls. But, after their return from the battle-front in 1865, one of the first types of sport to be revived was cricket and on May 27th, 1865, the Osceola Club had been organized and new officers were elected as follows: President, Bernard Reilly, father of Thos. Alexander Reilly, the player of later years; Vice. Pres. Clement Evans; Treas. T. F. McGinness; Secy. J. Wallace McCool, uncle of J. Wallace McCool and Miss Clarissa McCool, of Pottsville. Some of clubs took on a military tinge with the Grant Club of Pottsville and the Sherman Club of Port Carbon being among the number. Some new players appeared. The members of the Grant Club were: R. Lee, S. Silliman, J. Lewis, J. Smith, W. Schertle, Walter Brooke; B. Heilner, Frank Harper, a brother of Chas. Harper, and later married to Miss Delia Zerbey; Geo. S. Clemens, father of the Misses Pansy and Kitty Clemens, who formerly resided at the southwest corner of Morris and Centre St., Mr. Clemens being employed by the P. & R. C. & I. Co.; C. Rausch and J. Hobart.

The members of the Sherman club included: H. Wintersteen, J. Gane, J. Delker, W. Stevens, T. Ledden, O. Fagan, C. Hartzog, J. Bull, W. Smith, H. Richardson and J. May.

There was also a Rough and Ready Club, the Tuscarora Excelsiors, the

Silver Creek Miners and the Silver Creek Anthracite team.

One of the biggest events of the year was the challenge of the Pottsville Club to play the Young America Club of Phila., then the champions of the country. On Sept. 2, 1865, the locals went down to defeat at O'Connor's field. The Pottsville players included Ridgway, Evans, Reilly, Parry, Geo. Taylor, Jas. Mather, Jos. Stichter, Theo. Patterson, R. F. Lee, Ed. Brehaney and T. McGinness. Harry Royer was the umpire and A. W. Schalck, the father of Mrs. Louise Doyle, the scorer. In the evening, the visitors were royally entertained at the Penna. Hall of which Mr. Whitney was then the proprietor.

In 1866, the first cricket event was the election on May 17th at the Penna. Hall, when Riollay F. Lee was chosen the president of the Pottsville Club and the practice for the coming season began. During this year, some new clubs came into the limelight, with a United Eleven team being formed, a No Name Eleven, with the players representing six different clubs. The members of the No Name Eleven included Outerbridge, Hoffman, Cale, Chas. Snyder, Lew Snyder, Dengler, Kreamer, Border, Ramsey, McCook and Morris. The umpires were Wm. Hughes and Wallace Guss of Tamaqua. The scorers were Jas. Henderson, whose family homestead was where the Pottsville Club is now located, and H. V. German.

The Slow Boys included: Hoffman, Law, Nichols, Wm. Whitney, Patterson, Kramer, Royer, Sam Whitney, Guss, Sol Foster, Reilly, Hughes, Hartz, Potts, Drinkhouse, Bosbyshell, Mason Weidman, Esq., Foster and Garretson.

In 1867, the clubs reorganized in March and started the season, but baseball was becoming popular and

the interest in cricket lagged somewhat through that year, which was featured by no outstanding accomplishments. In the year, the Athletes, the Americans, the B. B. Club, the Juniatas, the United Eleven of Mechanicsville and the Geary Clubs were the only ones which figured in any contests.

The members of the Athletes were: Richard H. Lee, a brother of Riollay F. Lee, who with Wm. Pollard, was on the Harris Engineering Corps; and married a Miss Tower; J. C. Kline, J. M. Smith, L. Christian, Henry C. Russel, J. H. Evans, C. McGinness, Geo. Weaver, J. T. Dreher, Walter Brooke and Col. D. A. Brown, who at one time ran the Penna. Hall and lived at 8th and Market Sts., and later moved to Lost Creek.

The Juniatas included S. Miller, H. Saylor, S. Minnic, A. Owens, G. Graeff, G. Leib, Robt. McAdams, a brother of the late Wm. and Miss Ida McAdams and Misses Frances and Mary, of 12 N. George St., H. Seitzinger, F. Kuentzler, C. Snyder and J. Lang.

The American players were R. Lee, G. Weaver, W. Wren, Frank P. Mortimer, the dry goods merchant and father of F. Pierce and Norman Mortimer, C. Staats, J. Ward, A. Lord and R. Doherty.

In 1868, the Athletic cricket club organized with John H. Evans as President; Chas. McGinness, Vice Pres.; John W. Smith, Treasurer, and John T. Dreher, Secy. No matches are recorded as having been played in 1868 or 1869. During the period, the record says that some of the Mahantongo St. boys, including among them some of the Strauchs, Brookes, Wells, Pattersons, Clemens, Whitneys, Severns and Littles tried to raise enough money to purchase a small hand fire engine but that the Market St. boys succeeded in getting the money first and bought the

equipment, so the Mahantongo St. boys spent their money for a complete cricket outfit and formed a club, known as the Osceolas, but there were no outstanding matches played by them, although they had many practice games at the old cricket ground and also at the Evans lot, at 12th and Mahantongo Sts.

In May 1870, the interest in the game was again aroused and on May 16th of that year, the old Pottsville Cricket Club played a practice game at Agricultural Park which was witnessed by a large audience of interested fans.

On May 17, 1870, at W. Ramsey Potts' office on Mahantongo St., the Pottsville Cricket club was reorganized with the following officers: Pres. John C. Northall, Secy. J. Wallace McCool, Treas.; J. Albert Huntzinger, father of A. C. Huntzinger, present Health officer.

The club started to practice on the new grounds below Sch. Haven where a race track had been fitted up and enclosed for ball playing. On May 24, the Pt. Carbon Cricket Club organized with a few players and a number of amateurs. John L. Shissler was the President; Thos. Garis, the Vice Pres.; Wm. Weand, the Treasurer; Jas. H. Henderson, the Secy. and L. W. Snyder, the Captain.

On June 14th, a hot match was played at the Sch. Haven Fair grounds, between the two clubs. The Pottsville players included S. Silliman, Jos. Smith, D. J. Ridgway, Clem Evans, W. W. Parry, J. Reilly, J. McCool, John Waters, who alone made 31 runs, C. Loeser, F. Pomeroy and J. Sanderson.

The Port Carbon players were: C. Snyder, P. Bull, J. Delker, L. W. Snyder, T. Seddon, J. Hess, S. Woods, W. Turner, T. Garis, E. Templin and J. Bull, who made 24 runs.

The umpires were Jas. Henderson and Robert Allison and the scorers J. Silliman and M. Shissler. The score was: Pottsville 46-55 and 4 wickets and Pt Carbon, 31-66.

There were other matches played during the season but one of the outstanding matches was that between the Girard team of Phila., and the Pottsville team, which ended in a victory for the Girard team, the notation about this game being that the Girard team had two professional bowlers, who saved the day for their club. Huntzinger and Stichter bowled for Pottsville.

Games were also played with a Narragansett Club and a Harrisburg team and the Pottsville eleven gained enough confidence to challenge any amateur cricket club in Pennsylvania or any 22 picked men in the county. A match was arranged with 22 county players, but, due to the absence of some of the Pottsville players on the date set, it was never played.

1871 was a quiet year for cricket, there being no record of any games played but on Aug. 30, 1872, a new cricket club to be known as the Pottsville Cricket Club was formed in the Good Intent Engine House. However, they did not play any unusual games and it was not until June, 1874 that the game was again revived.

Port Carbon and Mechanicsville played the Pottsville team which now had some new players on it, Benj. Snyder, John Waters, H. Davis, Arthur Davis, W. Stichter, H. Nagle, J. Seltzer, G. Kramer, H. Hesser and Chas. Fiske being among the number.

Chas. Graeff, B. Bull, B. Templin, Woods, Donne, W. Black, S. Lilly, G. Graeff, O'Neill, Leonard and John Jones were among the Mechanicsville and Port Carbon players.

During the year announcement was made that an effort was being

made to start a club in the Mahanoy Valley by R. F. Ditchburn, Chas. Penglase and Jas. Williams. The Mechanicsville Cricket Club was also formed with W. Leib as President, and S. Lilly as Secretary.

On August 29th of that year, the Pottsville eleven played the Mechanicsville team at O'Connor's. Albert Huntzinger and J. McCool were two new players for Pottsville. The account of the game says that it was a very exciting one. To quote, it says:

"Pottsville had but 24 runs to make in second inning to win, but 9 wickets fell for 18 runs. Arthur Davis, who had made nothing in the first inning, and Frank H. Garrett who had made three and not out were the last hopes of Pottsville. A cut for two and a drive over the fence for four by Davis won the match but they stayed together until Davis had made 19 and Garrett three when Mechanicsville concluded to accept defeat by 19 runs and one wicket."

The Mahanoy Valley Club organized with Geo. H. Troutman, Pres.; S. Parkely, Treas., and John C. Bensinger, Secy. Wadesville also had a club known as the Pastimes.

September 12th of that year found Pottsville and Mechanicsville fighting it out at Pt. Carbon. Pottsville used four substitutes in this match, John Stein, Frank A. Hill, Frank H. Garrett, Arthur W. Sheaffer, now residing at 1443 Mahantongo St. and Burd S. Patterson. Garrett, Sheaffer, Hill and Patterson were members of a club which had been organized under the name of the Lazy Elephants. The Elephants made 15 runs. Huntzinger and Snyder bowled for Pottsville. The score was Pottsville 41-32 and Mechanicsville 12-49. There were other games during that year, the men from Boyer's works in Pt. Carbon defeating the men from the Allison and Bannan works and the

moulders from Boyer's works defeating the machinists.

On Oct. 27, 1874 at O'Connor's, Pottsville and Pt. Carbon each having won two games, a fifth for the championship of the county was played and resulted in a victory for Pottsville. The players on the Pottsville team were D. J. Ridgway, Frank Roseberry, Arthur Davis, B. Snyder, Con. Dougherty, Geo. Graeff, Jas. Russel, Wm. Blackman, who lived at Fishbach and has a son, Oliver J. Blackman residing at 12th and Howard Ave., C. J. Fiske and W. Leib.

Wadesville had a fine cricket club. In 1874, Mechanicsville defeated the Wadesville Club by 43 runs and an inning. The Wadesville players were Jas. Adams, Jas. Head, of the family of expert wingshots, Andrew Kirwan, John Alton, David Griffiths, John Parrish, Jas. Barry, John George, Wm. Cartwright, David Lewis and Jas. Alexander. The Mechanicsville team consisted of Wm. Leib, Wm. P. Jones, Henry Folk, John Jones, John Shafer, Chas. Graeff, Geo. Graeff, Israel Lambert, Arthur Davis, John Mulligan and Benj. Snyder.

On July 23, 1880, an unusual game was played at the Campfire grounds at St. Clair between Pt. Carbon and Wadesville, in which Wadesville was defeated by seven runs in a three inning game. The game was a tie at the end of the second inning and a third inning was played, probably the only time on record that this occurred in this region. The score was Wadesville, 30-45-19; Pt. Carbon, 29-46-26.

There was then a lull in cricket until 1884 when once again, the old rivals, Pottsville and Pt. Carbon met on July 18th and this time Pt. Carbon won the game. Among the Pottsville players at this time, we note: Frank Roseberry, W. Sheaffer,

J. C. Kline, Chas. Graeff, remembered as having been a policeman for many years, C. McGinness, Jas. S. Carpenter, Arthur Sheaffer, J. J. Murphy, J. Connors, Frank Bertram and G. M. Roads, the father of Prall B. Roads of Pottsville. However, the interest did not revive sufficiently for many clubs to be organized and there were only a few matches during the year. There was one team known as Randall's eleven, among which we find the names of Frehafer, Kramer, S. Sillyman, F. S. Sterner, H. Nagle, A. Strouse, Jas. Randall, Wm. McAdams, W. Hine and R. J. McAdams.

There were some games played between Roseberry's Eleven, Patterson's, Hill's and Whitney's elevens. The ladies were urged to attend the games as their interest had done much to make cricket the success it was years before.

On Roseberry's Eleven there was to be found: John Jones, Chas. Graeff, E. W. Frehafer, Arthur Sheaffer, Jas. Head, Paul Sheaffer, Frank Whitney, Cyrus Pershing, a brother of Mrs. Louise Carter, and Jas. Rice.

On Patterson's Eleven, there was Burd Paterson, H. S. Patterson, Rev. J. P. Hawkes, Dr. Jas. S. Carpenter, C. N. McGinness, Geo. Wilson, Daniel Kaercher, the present well known attorney, and Frank A. Hill.

However the personnel of the team was constantly changing and at other times, Rev. Hawkes and Mr. Jones captained teams also. J. P. Henderson, Geo. Lehman, Henry Shay, also a member of the police force and the father of Father Shay, formerly of Mary, Queen of Peace Church, Geo. Hallett, John P. Stine, the father of Edw. Stine, J. Connors, G. M. Roads, Jas. Rice, B. E. Troutman, E. Hause, Geo. Culver and Wm. Bensinger, Pt. Carbon, Chas. Miesse, Henry Potter, John Gillan and Jas. J. Clemens were

among the players in other games which were played at the Anthracite Park.

In one game, played on Sept. 5th. 1886, Mr. Graeff, who was playing point, was struck on the side of the nose by a ball hit by Rev. Hawkes. The ball broke a tooth for Graeff and knocked him over, causing a great deal of excitement, but he was later able to go on with the game.

A meeting was held at the office of Burd Patterson and it was decided that the permanent playing field should be the Anthracite Park. Frank Carr, Josiah Lineaweaver, Jos. Stichter, Oliver Stevens, of Pt. Carbon, Jas. Head of Wadesville, Chas. Lewis of Pt. Carbon, T. W. Swalm, Ed. Hause, Geo. Ehly, father of Geo. Ehly, Sch. Haven baker, J. J. Murphy, Geo. Cook, Col. Royer and W. Patterson joined the club.

The Pt. Carbon team accepted the challenge of Pottsville and on Oct. 2nd. the match was played at the Anthracite Park with Pt. Carbon being defeated. The Pt. Carbon team consisted of J. Stevens, J. Head, G. Bull, J. Bull, H. S. Patterson, O. Stevens, H. Moody, C. Lewis, J. Culver, N. Beddall and Leonard. Patterson, Head and Leonard were members of the Pottsville club who volunteered to play in order to have a full eleven for Pt. Carbon. Pt. Carbon had not had sufficient practice and was outclassed. W. Bensinger, W. Beddall, Jas. Mertz and J. Eisenach later joined the Pt. Carbon team.

After these games, interest seems to have been drawn to baseball more than cricket and there was little heard of the game until 1889. In the meantime, the Silk Mill was occupying the site of the cricket field and the Pottsville Club had no place to play. However, three years before this time, when the Schuylkill Valley branch of the Pennsy railroad was opened and J. C. Bright, gave a

reception to the railroad officials, several of the Pottsville cricketers had met Vice Pres. John P. Green of the Railroad Co. who was also president of the Belmont cricket club. He invited the Pottsville men to come to Phila. to play an eleven from his club. Cricket having died out in Pottsville, the invitation was forgotten until October of 1889 when the President of the Outdoor Club notified Mr. Green that the local club would accept his invitation. Wm. L. Sheafer had just received four new bats which his brother, Arthur, had brought home with him from England and these bats were used in the game. However, the voyage had been so rough that Arthur Sheafer was unable to play with the Pottsville team that day.

Although Pottsville lost the match, they reported having had a delightful time as the guests of the Belmont Club and in the evening, before coming home, they went to see "Clover" at the Chestnut St. Opera House, Phila.

The members of the Pottsville team were: G. M. Roads, John Walker, F. Roseberry, C. N. McGinness, John M. Jones, Will Robinson, F. A. Hill, Geo. Wilson, H. Hallsall, J. S. Russell and W. L. Sheafer.

From then on, little is heard about cricket locally, although there were probably games played now and then by the old timers. However, when the movement for the establishment of the Pottsville Hospital was on foot, the members of the cricket clubs in this vicinity got together and made up several elevens and played a match at Dolan's Park. Financially, the game was not a success only a small sum being realized for the hospital but, from the standpoint of sport, it was a huge success but marked the "swan song" of the Pottsville cricketers.

The teams were captained by Elias Davis and Jacob Schoen and the Davis eleven was victorious

Those who played this game were as follows: Isaac Leonard; S. Cummings, of Sch. Haven, well known clerk for the commissioners; Albert Mettam, of St. Clair; Geo. Bull, a relative of Ross Bull of Sch. Haven who during a deadlock at the St. Louis Republican Convention many years ago, was nominated by Jack Whitehouse, Schuylkill County delegate as a dark horse candidate for President of the U. S. and is a relative of Wm. Bull, Pt. Carbon, World War veteran; John F. Finney, officer of the National Guard, assistant U. S. Treasurer at Phila. for several years and former proprietor of the Miners Journal and other papers; Jas. Head, of Wadesville; Chas. N. Brumm, prominent attorney, and Congressman, and also serving on the county bench as Judge and the father of the present Congressman G. Frank Brumm, of Minersville; Willis Bryant, of Sch. Haven, whose wife was a Shannon from which estate the Pottsville Water Co. purchased their rights at Indian Run, where they built the largest of their four reservoirs, and whose wife at her death several years ago in Sch. Haven left her estate to the Episcopal Church

to be used as a school for minister's daughters.

There was also John Allton of Wadesville; Elias Davis formerly of New Castle, who served in the State Legislature from the 4th District, and was a former County Treasurer, his wife now residing in Los Angeles, Calif.; R. J. Mills, who played the game in England as a boy, became a proficient bowler, and at present a retired business man, one of the few survivors of the oldtime cricketers; Wm. James, of Minersville, a member of a family well known as athletes; B. Knittle, of Port Carbon, a relative of A. D. Knittle, of Pottsville; John Jones, Geo. Wilson, Jacob Schoen, Pottsville business man and former councilman; Arthur Davis, W. C. Beck, a member of the family for whom Beckville near Cressona is named; Wm. Leckie, who was at one time superintendent of the York Farm colliery of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co.; J. Russel, Mr. Werther, Chas. McGinness, Robert Allison, M. Russell, Clinton Rishel, former Pottsville business man, now of Phila., who was one of the proprietors of the famous Rose Garden dance hall in New York; Davis Hobert, a notary public and U. S. Commissioner prior to Chas. Woltjen; David Lewis and Wm. Allton, Wadesville.



Outdoor Club Forerunner of Country Club

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* November 22-23, 1933)

Considering the fact that the Schuylkill Country Club is only thirteen years old, it seems to have grown very rapidly. It was November the 22nd, 1919 that the board of directors and bond holders of the Outdoor Club decided that Pottsville should, like other cities of its size and smaller, have a country club.

The Outdoor Club, which was situated at 18th and Oak Road, received its charter in May 1905, and the instigators of that club were: Miss Annie Cole, Miss Anna Henning, Mrs. Phoebe A. Lee, James Archbald, D. W. Kaercher, John Ryon and Paul Sheaffer. This club ran from its opening until 1919, it being used more or less as a tennis club, and place where tennis teas and informal dances and afternoon affairs were held.

In November, 1919, plans were started for the organization of the new Country Club. Judge MacHenry Wilhelm, James Archbald and Edwin C. Luther were appointed the committee to see about organizing a Club, and upon the resignation of Judge Wilhelm, Geo. B. Hadesty was appointed to fill his place. A first meeting was held at the Pottsville Club with the following subscribers present: Jas. Archbald, Edmund D. Smith, Louis F. Ulmer, Jacob W. Fox, George B. Hadesty, I. D. Beahm, Edwin C. Luther, E. L. Hern- don, H. I. Silliman and B. F. Ibach.

James Archbald was made chairman and Edwin C. Luther, Secretary of the Bond Holders, and on December the 27th of the same year, a second meeting was called with the

following present: Judge MacHenry Wilhelm, H. I. Silliman, Charles Strange, Frank Ibach, I. D. Beahm, E. D. Smith, A. D. Knittle, Conrad Hock, George Keiser, John Ryon, Paul Sheaffer, Clinton Sheaffer, Dr. Wm. C. Hoefer, W. J. Richards, C. E. Enzian, G. B. Hadesty, James Archbald, B. S. Simonds, Dr. J. B. Rogers, C. A. Snyder, R. C. Green, C. H. Marshall and Edwin C. Luther.

It was announced at this meeting that three places for the location of the club had been investigated, the old Bryant Farm, across from Connors Crossing, the Gibson Farm at Hill Side, and its present site between Sch. Haven and Orwigsburg, and at that time fifteen and eighteen additional acres had been purchased, the rest of the 113 acres to be purchased at a later date, the purchasing price being \$6,450. It was announced at this same meeting that Mr. James, a golf expert, had laid out a golf course on the ground and the same was submitted. Frank X. Reilly of Pottsville, submitted plans for the club house.

The building was commenced, and at a later meeting in 1919 the following Board of Directors of the Schuylkill Country Club was elected, this being the first board of the new club, which in May 1920 changed its charter from the Outdoor Club to the Schuylkill Country Club; James Archbald, President; H. S. Albright, Vice President; E. M. Burgan, J. W. Fox, E. C. Luther, George Seligman, Robert R. Miller, Paul Sheaffer, L. F. Ulmer and B. S. Simonds as Secretary and Treasurer.

The first committees appointed were: House and Ground: E. C. Luther, chairman, Paul Sheaffer, E. M. Burgan, H. S. Albright, W. G. Rohrer and L. F. Ulmer.

Golf Committee: Paul Sheaffer, chairman, Robert R. Miller.

Entertainment: H. I. Silliman, chairman, Henry Sheaffer, Mrs. Hanson E. Atkins, Miss Anna Wilhelm.

House and Grounds Ladies Committee: Mrs. W. L. Sheaffer, chairman, Mrs. Frank Parsons, Mrs. B. S. Simonds, Mrs. E. D. Smith and Mrs. B. F. Ibach.

Membership Committee: L. F. Ulmer, H. S. Albright, A. B. Seligman, Robert R. Miller, Jas. Archbald, B. S. Simonds.

Tennis and Baseball Committee: E. M. Burgan and George H. Kaercher.

The formal opening of the club was held on May 10th, 1921, with Harvey Marburger's Orchestra of Reading playing for the dance, which was held after a dinner, at which most of the members were present. This was a gala affair and the committee in charge was: H. I. Silliman, chairman, Mrs. H. E. Atkins, Mrs. E. C. Luther, Mrs. Jas Archbald, Mrs. W. J. Richards and Mrs. W. L. Sheaffer.

Pertaining to the golf, which is the main item of the club, the first ball hit off the first tee was driven by Mrs. E. C. Luther, who has been an ardent admirer of the sport ever since.

The first Golf Professional was Wm. Kane, who was followed by Harry Scott, Joe Higgins and the present Professional, Richard Henkle. Annual Golf Championship tournaments are held, and to own the cup, one person must win the championship three years in succession. There are other tournaments, such as the tombstone tournament for men, and tournaments with other clubs. The women also have a golf team and an

annual championship is played every year. They have tournaments with other clubs, and a Ladies Day is held at the Club every Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Check were the first stewards, and upon the death of Mrs. Check and resignation of Mr. Check, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Henkle were employed and have been at the club ever since.

During the infancy of the club there was a series of Outdoor Plays put on by Professional Players, which was sponsored by the Entertainment Committee. The club house has been used for many formal occasions, such as wedding receptions, dances, teas, bridges and luncheons. There are the annual dances at the club such as the Christmas dance, Easter Dance, Memorial Day Dance, 3rd of July Dance, Labor Day Dance, and Hallowe'en Dance, with other small affairs being held once in a while, particularly in the summer-time.

Some years after the opening of the club, a Caddy House was added and also a new wing on the men's locker-room. Then on May the 16th, 1930 a special meeting was held at the club in order that the subject of a swimming pool might be discussed. J. Robert Bazley, as chairman, assisted by C. H. Dreshman, Wm. Wells and Herbert Quin were appointed the committee to raise funds for a swimming pool. This building fund was raised by popular subscription, and many bridges held by the Ladies Committee, and the pool, which is a lovely structure with bathhouses at the rear, was opened on the 4th of July, when exhibitions of swimming and diving and contests were held by the members, after which tea was served on the porch of the club and dancing was held in the ballroom.

The annual meetings of the club, at which time new directors are

Joseph H. Zerbey History, Pottsville and Schuylkill County, Penna.

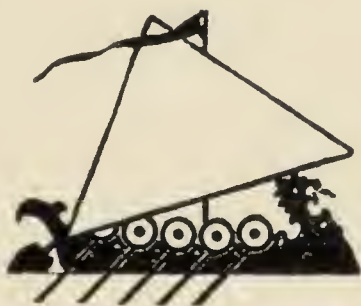
elected, are held the 2nd Wednesday in October and the monthly meetings of the Board of Managers are held the 2nd Friday of each month.

The Presidents of the Club up to the present date have been: James Archbald, 1919-1921; E. C. Luther, 1921-1926; Louis F. Ulmer, 1926-1932; Wm. H. McQuail, 1932-1933

The Secretaries have been: B. S.

Simonds, 1919-1922; Uzal H. Martz, 1922-

The present Board of Directors consists of: C. W. Sheaffer, president; J. Robert Bazley, vice-president; James Archbald, treasurer; Paul Sheaffer, Louis F. Ulmer, E. C. Luther, I. D. Thomas, William H. McQuail and Uzal H. Martz, secretary.



Women Started Delphian Society In 1920

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* November 22-23, 1933)

On Nov. 22, 1923, we find that the Delphian Society of Pottsville was having an Art exhibit in the Public Library, this being the first exhibit that the Society had sponsored.

So, suppose that we consider the Delphian Society on this date which is a particularly appropriate one.

On August 18th, 1920, a group of Pottsville women met in the Y. M. C. A. rooms on West Market St., and with Miss Mason presiding and Mrs. Stella Huntington, acting as temporary Secretary, formed a Pottsville Chapter of the Delphian Society.

The chairman explained the meaning of the Delphian insignia pin, and the officers elected were: Pres., Mrs. T. R. Daddow; Vice-Pres., Mrs. J. L. N. Channell; Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. J. Herman Rabenau. The Advisory Board was as follows: Mrs. H. I. Silliman, Chairman; Mrs. C. E. Alter, Mrs. R. C. Walter, assistants; Mrs. W. P. Strauch, Press Reporter.

Their first topic of study was announced as "Epochs of Progress." The first regular meeting was held on September the 14th of that year with forty members present. At this meeting, the members decided to call this society the Pottsville Delphian Society, one meeting being in the afternoon while another was in the evening. The meetings were to be held the first and third Tuesday of each month. Mrs. T. R. Daddow declined the Presidency, and Mrs. E. L. Goodall was elected in her place.

At the third meeting, Mrs. Channell gave a talk on how the Delphian Society got its name, talking on Greek

Mythology and the Oracle of Delpha. The first social affair of the club to be held was an Egyptian Tea at the home of Mrs. Norman H. Rich, of Mahantongo St., on November 30th, 1920. At this social a play "Queen Hatchepsut and the Myest Tree," written by Mrs. Goodall, was given.

On February 1st, 1921, Miss Gertrude Ritter wrote words to the tune of "Long, Long Trail" and these were adopted as the social song. Mrs. Troutman sang the song, accompanied by Mrs. E. T. Cole.

During this year "Women of Ancient World" in tableau was given, this was also written by Mrs. Goodall, and also during this year the project of this society was to help beautify the city.

The plans for a public tennis court or courts were suggested, and the ones at Westwood were made possible by this society, who collected \$1200 to complete the grounds.

The first annual dinner was held on July 11, 1921 at the Schuylkill Country Club, where it has always been held since that time.

In the fall of 1921 they chose Drama as their course of study and decided to have Michael Doriza to give a lecture on Syria and Palestine, which was greatly enjoyed by many Pottsville persons, as this meeting was open to the public. It was also decided during this term that the class baby should be the first baby born since the beginning of the club. Mrs. Miles Zimmerman's baby, Carolyn, was chosen as class baby, as she was born in July 1921.

Two years later, the society offered a prize to the best all around

Delphian member and a prize to the member of the High School Senior Class for the best English examination, the prize being \$25.

Art was another subject chosen for study and the Delphians have delved into this topic very thoroughly. At every meeting, since the Society has formed, very delightful as well as enlightening times have been enjoyed. During 1923, the Delphians started to hold their meetings in the new Public Library and their study of art continued. As has been mentioned before, they had their first art exhibit at the Library starting on November 21st and lasting for a week. It was a very ambitious exhibit, consisting of paintings, miniatures and small bronzes. It has been gratifying to the Delphians to note that since that time, many of the artists and sculptors whose works were exhibited, have become quite famous in the world of art.

During this same year, they turned their attention to the Indian Head on the mountain side on the Pottsville-Schuylkill Haven highway. The head was painted so that it could be seen more distinctly and a sign was erected, pointing to the Indian. It was also during 1923 that the tennis

courts on Greenwood Hill were completed.

The next course of study chosen was History of the Middle Ages. It was about this time that the Society purchased the picture exhibited at Reading by Christian Shearer. The picture was placed in the Public Library where it remains to the present day.

Such poets as Shelly, Keats, Hunt, Morris and others were studied and a year was devoted to Opera and Architecture.

During more recent years, the Society has kept up its study of Art and has continued to have very interesting programs to which guests have been invited from time to time. They attend the County Delphian luncheon each spring and in this way learn what other societies of the county are doing. During the past year, the Delphians also met once a week and sewed on garments for the Red Cross. They have also planted some climbing rose bushes at the Mt. Carbon Arch which have grown very nicely.

The present officers of the Society are: Miss Martha Lewis, Minersville, President; Mrs. Jas. A. Medlar, Vice Pres.; Miss Bessie Rosengarten, Secy., and Mrs. H. H. Seltzer, Treas.



Pottsville Elks Has Had Steady Growth

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* November 23, 1933)

"The Pottsville Lodge of Elks have completed arrangements for the purchase from the Schuylkill Trust Co. of a portion of the latter's new property on West Market St., formerly owned by the Thompson Estate. The property which was purchased for \$102,000, included the newly erected three-story brick building on West Market St., adjoining the hardware store proper to the corner, taking in the building at the corner of Second and Market Sts. now occupied as a meat market. The Elks were the high bidders for the property, their offer of \$102,000 being accepted by the Board of the Schuylkill Trust Co., and today, preparations are under way for the confirmation of the sale and necessary papers were being drawn up."

In going over the "Republican" of Nov. 23rd, 1921, this item quoted above seemed to be the outstanding local event of that date and therefore, it was taken to be used as the basis for the history of the popular organization, the Pottsville Elks.

The Pottsville Lodge Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 207 was instituted on June 22, 1891, at 10 A. M. in the G. A. R. Hall, by Reading Lodge No. 115, who were chosen to install it because they were from the nearest city having an organization of this character.

Prior to the institution of the Lodge a meeting of the charter members was held, at Penna. Hall Hotel, on Wednesday, June 3rd, pursuant to the call of R. J. Mills, for the purpose of effecting the organization.

Mr. Mills was elected chairman and H. G. Steel, secretary, while Messrs. W. I. Rahn, G. W. Ryon and

W. W. Foster were appointed a committee to select a place for institution and permanent quarters.

Barge C. Weidman offered a motion that the first signers of the application for a charter be made its officers, in the order of seniority, which was adopted, and the following were named: Exalted Ruler, R. J. Mills; Esteemed Leading Knight, G. F. Helms; Esteemed Royal Knight, W. W. Foster; Esteemed Lecturing Knight, G. W. Ryon; Secretary, T. P. Powers; Treasurer, A. H. Rosengarten; Esquire, H. G. Steel; Tyler, W. I. Rahn; Chaplain, Benjamin Geer; Inner Guard, Harry C. Matten; Trustees, W. G. Yuengling, A. L. Shay and Robert Green, Jr.; Organizer, Myer Strouse.

The following committees were also appointed:

Hall: C. I. Loeser, D. L. Esterly, J. Royer and Harry Matten;

Finance, J. B. Beatty, Robert Green and Frank Krebs;

Entertainment, Robert C. Green, T. P. Powers, Myer Strouse and H. G. Steel;

Sick, R. J. Mills, Ed. Green and J. E. Rice.

The charter members of the Lodge were: R. J. Mills, G. F. Helms, W. W. Foster, G. W. Ryon, T. P. Powers, A. H. Rosengarten, H. G. Steel, W. I. Rahn, B. J. Geer, H. C. Matten, A. H. Butler, J. Bechtel, J. B. Beatty, A. Comrey, Dr. C. W. Evans, D. L. Esterly, R. C. Green, Jr., Edward Green, Dr. B. C. Guldin, C. H. Haeseler, Levi Huber, R. H. Koch, J. P. Knight, F. P. Krebs, C. I. Loeser, M. E. Mudey, B. C. Weidman, E. J.

Phillips, J. E. Rice, A. L. Shay, Myer Strouse, Dr. J. H. Swaving, B. J. Severn, Edward Silliman, Jr., J. Royer and W. G. Yuengling.

From an humble start of 36 charter members, Lodge No. 207 steadily grew until its membership has reached the 429 mark, at present.

With its steadily increasing number, the Lodge outgrew its meeting place and the need of larger quarters manifested itself early in 1899 when a committee, with Jas. F. Carlin as chairman, was appointed to secure new ones. In 1903, during the time that O. E. Farquhar was secretary, the present Lodge home was purchased on Mahantongo St., at a cost of \$10,250. Before occupancy, it was decorated and furnished at a cost of over \$6,000.

Then, later, as mentioned in the opening paragraph, the Elks acquired more property when the purchase on West Market St., was made. The Elks still own this property, directly in rear of the handsome new Schuylkill Trust Co. building. This property owned by the Trust Co. and the bank was the old L. C. Thompson property, on which the Thompson Hardware Co. was located for many years.

From 36 charter members there survive only five, viz, Robert J. Mills, retired, for many years a Centre St. business man of Pottsville; Hon. Richard H. Koch, also of this city, who served two terms on the Common Pleas Bench, of Schuylkill County; Benj. R. Severn, of Shenandoah, first Controller of Schuylkill County; F. P. Krebs, of Tamaquo, practicing attorney for many years at the Schuylkill County Bar and Harry G. Steel of Cordova, Alaska, in the Klondike, who back in the nineties, was a local reporter on the staff of the "Pottsville Republican," being a son of J. Irving Steel,

of Ashland, an editor and newspaper publisher.

The Chorus was the creation of Edgar D. Brown. It started with a minstrel entertainment, and after that partook of the dignity of an ensemble organization, taking up some of the best musical compositions of past and present. It won a prize in an Eisteddfod, at Shenandoah. Three times it went to New York City. On the second visit, a half dozen records were taken of their standard selections, by a prominent professional recording corporation. It was through these records, the Chorus still receiving royalty from it, that their singing was spread throughout the world. It has been but a few years ago that a resident of South Africa, hearing one of the records, wrote to Pottsville to ascertain where he could procure a copy of the music from which the record was made.

Then the Chorus did radio broadcasting in New York City. After that there were frequent trips to Wildwood and Atlantic City, N. J., where they gave concerts and were dined and feted as guests of the municipal authorities, headed by the mayors of both seaside resorts, and many others.

The Chorus gave concerts at state conventions of the Elks at Sunbury, Reading and Harrisburg. They were frequently in demand for concerts given at Hazleton, Shamokin and Allentown, also before the convention of regional bankers at the Bellevue-Stratford, Philadelphia, and a number of other points, where they were always received with acclaim.

In Pottsville, they frequently appeared at concerts in the Capitol and Hippodrome Theatres. The Elks' singers, for years, carried on New Year's Eve serenading for the benefit of the patients and official force of the local hospitals and also for

"shut-ins" and invalids among their membership, as well as close friends and acquaintances.

Less than a year ago, the singers seceded from the fostering care of the Elks' organization, since which time they have been known only as the "Famous Forty" Chorus.

The members of the Elks' Lodge, who have departed to the Great Beyond and who are toasted, "at eleven", at every gathering of the lodge representatives, from the institution of the organization until the present time, follow:

F. W. Mortimer, E. C. Newell, G. F. Helms, Wm. G. Yuengling, J. E. Rice, Levi Huber, C. I. Loeser, C. C. Rauch, Jas. W. Carlin, D. L. Esterly, W. G. Buck, Judson James, E. H. Schilling, M. J. McGurl, D. A. Freiler, J. A. Faden, K. R. Kleaver, B. F. Hodgson, J. P. Knight, S. H. Gore, J. M. Matthews.

C. C. Birchill, O. P. Piper, Frank Miehle, J. E. Werner, Daniel Dechert, H. H. Binckley, R. A. Neifert, W. J. Whitehouse, Jas. F. Kelly, Walter Wertley, W. A. Hawk, B. C. Weidman, C. F. Seltzer, H. P. Lauer, J. A. Dinger, F. McWilliams, Jas. F. Weiser, J. H. Swaving, F. A. Griffith, W. A. Wertley, W. K. Weidensaul.

H. C. Halberstadt, L. C. Joyce, E. J. Flanigan, I. A. Reed, W. I. Rahn, C. N. Brumm, R. E. Scheerer, W. H. Kantner, George W. Beddall, George Ball, Chas. F. Campbell, Wm. E. Moody, Jos. H. Clay, B. C. Guldin, Martin J. Kelly, Frank J. Kehler, M. H. Detweiler, H. E. Zerbey, F. J. Hummel, H. E. Bader, Add Francis, J. M. Shellhammer, L. F. Stoffregen, P. F. Weiss.

Geo. W. Jungkurth, W. E. Bearstler, C. H. Brown, H. Baumgarten, G. W. Hoffman, A. L. Glass, G. H. Wertley, R. L. Schwenk, Wm. F. Scheerer, Frank J. Bender, Alois Knecht, W. J. Whitehouse, Jr., Harry A. Smith, Robert White, Edwin

Merrick, William Wright, Charles Diamond, Howard P. Nagle, Geo. W. Shoener, Maurice R. Holt, E. R. Lawrence, Philip Schoen, John M. Oren, Geo. Weiderhold.

John M. Mitchell, Jacob Refowich, L. H. Ginrich, E. G. Hoover, W. O. Rettig, William B. Shugars, J. A. March, T. P. Powers, J. W. Mussina, W. G. Dimmerling, G. L. Hargey, Dr. J. J. Moore, Carl W. Frehafer, Leroy Jewells, Samuel S. Weiss, R. C. Green, G. F. Dimmerling, A. H. Halberstadt, William M. Knoll, Charles McClennan, Harry Weissinger, Robert J. Smith, Fred. W. Rabenau, Joseph Davenport, James E. Heffner, Ex-Judge C. A. Whitehouse, Edward Hughes, J. A. Noecker, George E. Ackerman, James J. McCabe, Morris E. Yerger, Frank L. Cooch, G. W. Boyer, Harry W. Althouse, Fred H. Hause, Oscar St. Clair, Dr. E. J. Buckley, Joseph D. Crone, Willard Weaver, Gordon Nagle, Dr. G. O. O. Santee, Charles F. Ost, William C. Steidle, Andrew F. Curry, William Locke, Harry O. Haag, Morris H. Spicker.

L. C. Scheibelhut, Dr. Victor T. Roth, Harry Cooper, Newton H. Levee, Dr. William F. Doyle, Senator Charles A. Snyder, Dr. John T. Ryan, John J. Pfluger, Otto J. Mitchel, John Schuster, F. M. Lavelle, Philip Wolfson, John A. Mahoney, J. S. MacDougall, Albert S. Koenig, Oscar T. Sterner, Moses Refowich, H. D. Lindermuth, William E. Quinfin, Charles Deeney, G. Edgar Leininger, Harry E. Shomper, Fred. W. Sanner, Daniel G. Kleibenstein, Willet E. Boyer, William S. Cowen, George W. Leininger.

The present officers of the Lodge are: Exalted Ruler, Ralph A. Fertig; Esteemed Leading Knight, D. H. Grootenboer; Esteemed Loyal Knight, Harry J. Kotz; Esteemed Lecturing Knight, Clarence H. Sneddon; Secretary, John J. Cantwell; Treasurer, Alex C. Huntzinger; Esquire, Thomas

B. Shoener; Tiler, George M. Moore; Chaplain, Jay S. Herbein, P. E. R.; Inner Guard, W. George Knowles; Trustees, Dr. C. V. Hogan, P. E. R.; Dr. J. W. Seltzer, P. E. R.; H. O. Bechtel, P. E. R.; and Organist, Alex C. Huntzinger.

While the name of Mr. Mills heads the list of charter members, there are not many people, in the present age, who are cognizant of the fact that he organized the Pottsville Lodge. At the time he became interested in the fraternal organization he was a frequent visitor to Williamsport, where there was a "live wire" lodge.

While in that city, he spent considerable time among friends, who were Elks, in their lodge room. It was through their importunity and persistence that, upon his return from one of these upstate trips, he undertook and successfully carried through the organization of the Pottsville Lodge.

Under the regime of R. J. Mills, as the initial Exalted Ruler, the new lodge met in the quarters of Gowen Post, No. 23, G. A. R., located on the top floor of the Morris building, which some years ago, passed into the possession of the dry goods firm of Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart, in more recent years being the property of Pomeroy's, Inc.

The lodge met, subsequently, at

various central points of the city, among which were: The Huntzinger building, on the western side of Centre Street, just north of Market Street; the Rosengarten building, corner of Centre and Mahantongo Street, which occupied the site of the present building of the Union Bank & Trust Company; property of A. W. Schalek, Esq., on the north side of Market, near Fifth Street, which was razed when the congregation of the First Methodist Episcopal Church required it for part of the site of their place of worship; the Berge-man building on the east side of Centre Street, between Norwegian and Market Streets; and property in the rear of the store of L. C. Thompson, on the north side of Market just west of Centre Street. Finally the Charles Lineaweaver property, on the south side of Mahantongo, near Third Street, just east of the parochial residence of St. Patrick's Catholic parish, became the permanent home of the organization.

It was during the regime of Dr. C. V. Hogan, as Exalted Ruler, in 1925, that the Elks' "Famous Forty" Chorus was organized and its prestige and many successes, near and far, advertised the Pottsville Elks Lodge throughout Elkdom in the United States and Europe and, for that matter, throughout the world, even to South Africa.



D. A. R. Has Active Organization

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* November 24, 1933)

The date of Nov. 24th, 1907 is a memorable one for Pottsville for it was on that date that the Mahantongo Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution came into existence. Since that time, the Chapter has taken part in many of the important activities of the community and has brought prestige to the city by the influence which it has exerted at home and abroad.

While the organization took place on that date, the charter was not received until March 14, 1909, its national number being 772.

Mrs. Sarah E. Schertle Pilgram was the organizing Regent and the Charter Members were: Mrs. Arthur J. Pilgram, Mrs. Guy E. Farquhar, Mrs. L. C. Thompson, Mrs. F. W. Boyer, Mrs. S. A. Thurlow, Mrs. R. H. Kear, Mrs. Edward M. Heilner, Miss Emma Pott, Miss Kate Richards, Miss Florence Richards, Miss Lucy Helms, Miss Emma Dobson, Mrs. Geo. R. Kaercher, Miss Elizabeth Eastman and Miss Frances Kaercher.

The Chapter held its first meeting at the home of the organizing Regent, Mrs. Pilgram, with Mrs. Allen M. Perley, the State Regent, Mrs. Randolph D. B. Keim, Regent of the Reading Chapter and the Vice-President general of the organization, and Mrs. Ancora of the Reading Chapter being present. Officers were elected for the first year at this meeting. They were: Regent, Mrs. Pilgram; Vice-Regent, Mrs. Thurlow; Secy., Miss Eastman; Treasurer, Miss Helms and Registrar, Mrs. Kaercher.

Soon after its organization, this

Chapter attained prestige for its patriotic activities and for the brilliance of its social functions, which are well remembered by the living charter members.

On the following June 24th, 1908, the members of the Chapter raised a large American flag at the Soldiers' Monument in Garfield Square. This was quite an event as excerpts from the "Republican" show. The newspaper account of the event said, in part:

"With several hundred school children gathered at the Soldiers' Monument, a large American flag was at noon today raised on the eastern staff while the little ones lifted their voices in patriotic song. The flag raising was under the auspices of the Daughters of the American Revolution of Pottsville, and the flag, which has the 46 stars arranged according to the adopted pattern, will be permitted to fly night and day in all kinds of weather until it is torn to pieces when it will be replaced with a new one."

"The exercises were opened by a bugle call by Prof. Elam Jenkins, and at the conclusion Miss Elizabeth Eastman and Miss Frances Kaercher drew the handsome flag to the top of the staff while applause from the crowd followed at the inspiring sight. While it was being raised Mr. Jenkins played the Star Spangled Banner, on the cornet. The school children then sang Columbia the Gem of the Ocean and America under the leadership of Prof. Knowles and Supt. Thurlow."

"Judge Shay then made a brief address on 'Our Flag'."

During the first year a prize in gold was given a member of the Senior Class of the Pottsville High School for the best essay on "Penn-

sylvania in the Revolution," and some years later a ten dollar gold piece was given as a prize to a High School student for the best essay on the "Early Roads in Schuylkill." Of course, these were received most enthusiastically among the students, and some very fine essays were written for the competitive prize.

Again some years later, just a few years ago, Mrs. Dorothy Hause Muehlhof in memory of her mother, Mrs. Louisa Hause, offered through the Chapter a similar prize to the High School student for the best essay on a Revolutionary subject, which was equally as enthusiastically received.

July 4th, 1909, was again the occasion of an inspiring and patriotic gathering of Pottsville Societies and citizens. This was the first and only time that the women of our city attempted a celebration of this kind. Invitations were sent out by Mahantongo Chapter to all local lodges and organizations, the firemen and the Third Brigade Band to participate in a celebration on the Anniversary of American Independence. The response, we are told, resulted in a brilliant patriotic parade. After the parade there was an enthusiastic gathering of these societies and citizens at the Benjamin Haywood lot, 15th and Mahantongo Street. The Third Brigade Band entertained the assembly with its beautiful music, and Mrs. Donald McClean, President General of the National Society made an eloquent address.

On May 30, 1913, the Chapter dedicated the eight and a half ton boulder with which they had marked the site of old Ft. Lebanon near Auburn. Mrs. Pilgram, the Chapter Regent, gave an inspiring address. After this the Chapter Historian, Miss Caroline Holt, a lineal descendant of Colonel Jacob Morgan, the command-

er at Fort Lebanon, unveiled the monument with the aid of thirteen little girls from Auburn. Honorable James R. Kenney of Philadelphia, was the guest speaker, and at the close of his address, presented the boulder to the Township of Brunswick and the Borough of Auburn in behalf of the Mahantongo Chapter.

Ft. Lebanon was a large and important fort near Auburn. It was 100 feet square with stockades 14 feet high. It held a magazine of ammunition, and in every way was equipped for war. There was a house within, thirty by twenty feet, a fine spring of water, and one hundred families were thus protected. The commander, Colonel Jacob Morgan, was a regularly commissioned officer of colonial troops and later a distinguished officer in the war for American Independence. The 8½ ton boulder is natural rock from nearby mountains with an inset of a bronze memorial tablet with the following inscription: "On this site stood Ft. Lebanon built in 1755 by Colonel Jacob Morgan for the protection of the early settlers from the Indians." Colonel Jacob Morgan was the revolutionary ancestor of the late Caroline Holt and Minnie Holt, members of the Mahantongo Chapter.

In 1922, the Chapter placed a bronze tablet in the Pottsville Library in memory of the twenty-seven Pottsville boys who gave their lives in the World War. The Tablet is three by four feet and is over the main stairway. The inscription reads: "This Tablet is dedicated with pride and reverence to the boys from Pottsville who gave their lives for their country in the World War, 1917-1918—'Greater love hath no man than this'."

At the unveiling of the Tablet, the Chapter was assisted by the famous Third Brigade Band and the several interested and talented townspeople.

Robert Woodbury, Jr., son of one of the heroes unveiled the Tablet, and Rev. Howard S. Talbot, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, who served as an overseas Chaplain, gave the address of the occasion. It was through the indefatigable efforts of Mrs. Arthur J. Pilgram, Chairman of the Tablet Committee, and of Mrs. James Jennings, Chairman of Ways and Means Committee, that this memorial was made possible.

In 1925, the chapter placed in the beautiful Constitution Hall of the D. A. R., at Washington a chair on which is engraved the name of the organization regent, Sarah E. Schertle Pilgram. Through the years, Mrs. Pilgram has been an inspiring advocate of the chapter's patriotic efforts, and the inscription and the chair were only a meager return for her unceasing devotion to the organization.

In this same year through the untiring efforts of Mrs. Ella Zerbey Elliot, the graves of four soldiers of the War of 1812 at New Ringgold were marked by the U. S. Government, and the stones of Heinie Lutz and Philip Schwartz were on the way. This was a task that Mrs. Elliot had very much at heart.

From 1907-'21, the growth of Mahantongo Chapter was designedly conservative. About 1918, the twenty-five limit which the original constitution imposed was removed, and since then the growth has been rapid.

In June, 1931, the chapter members from Orwigsburg were transferred to membership-at-large to organize a chapter in their home town. Mahantongo Chapter rejoices that Ft. Lebanon Chapter of Orwigsburg is a worthy daughter of the parent chapter.

Socially, the Mahantongo Chapter has had many brilliant functions—musicals, teas, pageants, luncheons and dinners. During the later years,

speakers of note have addressed the chapter and its guests on the occasion of the annual dinners. In December, 1926, Dr. Warren Giles of East Orange, spoke on the United States Constitution.

In December, 1927, Hiram Shenk, State Archivist, spoke on "Famous Pennsylvania Women." In December 1928, Colonel D. M. Royal, 1st Vice Commander of the American Legion, Department of West Virginia, spoke on "Self Defense." December, 1929, Lieutenant Colonel Seymour Bullock, talked on "Preparedness." In February, 1931, Rev. E. W. Weber talked on "The Phillipines," and February, 1932, Mrs. Eva Garrett Grady spoke on "Soviet Russia."

Throughout these years, financial calls have been answered from Ellis Island, Valley Forge, Wakefield, the D. A. R. School in Georgia, the National Society, Pottsville Americanization School, and Pottsville charities. At the October meeting, 1932, the Chapter celebrated its twenty-fifth Anniversary with a birthday cake, candles 'n' all! Mrs. Pilgram, founder of the chapter, presided with the same enthusiasm and skill of her initial meeting twenty-five years ago. Happy were the reminiscences between the Leader and the charter members. Six of seven remaining charter members were present.

Not with the boulder, nor with a tablet did this Mahantongo Chapter mark her twenty-fifth birthday, but with a living memorial. As a thank offering, the chapter gave fifty dollars towards beautifying the highway between Pottsville and Schuylkill Haven. She had vision enough to see that highway twenty-five years hence! Tall stately trees on either side, arching overhead, always growing, ever increasing in usefulness and beauty. Does that not seem more appropriate to give than a tablet or stone memorial?

Thus ends the history of the D. A. R. for its first twenty-six years of growth, and we like many others can see that it will keep on growing for many, many more years.

The Regents for the Mahantongo Chapter since its organization have been: 1907-09, Mrs. Arthur J. Pilgram; 1909-11, Mrs. Edward M. Heilner; 1911-14, Mrs. Arthur J. Pilgram; 1914-16, Mrs. F. W. Boyer; 1916-18, Mrs. A. Julian Pilgram; 1918-19, Mrs. A. Julian Pilgram; 1919-21, Mrs. James Jennings; 1921-23, Miss Lucy Helms; 1923-25, Mrs. Stephen A. Thurlow; 1925-27, Mrs. A. Julian Pilgram; 1927-29, Mrs. Ruth Snyder Sapper; 1929-31, Mrs. Ellis Goodall; 1931-32, Mrs. George Ryon, Jr.; 1932-33, Mrs. J. H. Zerbey, Jr.; 1933—

The present officers for 1933-34 are: Regent, Mrs. J. H. Zerbey, Jr.; 1st Vice Regent, Miss Kate Richards; 2nd Vice Regent, Mrs. Cora B. Darby Oday; Recording Secy., Mrs. Marie Umbenhen Dolbin; Corresponding Secy., Miss Alice Margaret Wilkinson; Treas., Mrs. Edna Carmichael Fisher; Registrar, Mrs. Catherine Swank Foster; Historian, Frances Chesebrough Pilgram; Honorary Chaplain, Mrs. Sarah E. Schertle Pilgram; Chaplain, Mrs. Mary Chase Thurlow; Librarian, Mrs. Millie Kershner Boone.

The active members at present are: Hawthorne Lyon Ball, Bertha Bannan, Mary Brandt Baxter, Alice Harmon Bazley, Madeleine Freund Bente, Oulietta Bodey, Nellie Kershner Boone, Elizabeth Miller Bowman, Frances Zerbey Braun, Catherine Roads Bright, Helen Donne Calhoun, Claire Dechert Carpenter, Mrs. Bruce L. Christ, Grace Bartholomew Clayton, Sarah Shay Comloquoy, Isabella Woodbury Conkling, Alice Heebner Conrad, Dorothy Kauffman Critz, Hannah Hepler Crone, Ada S. Beck Dechert, Mary Dechert, Mary Diefenderfer, Marie Umbenhen Dolbin, An-

nette Roads Downing, Susan Hermany Dyatt, Emily Parker Farquhar.

Edna Carmichael Fisher, Catherine Swank Foster, Mary Mattis Freiler, Mary D. Garretson, Ethel Roads Garrett, Eleanor Donne Gettis, Daisy L. Morse Goodall, Sara Clayton Guertler, Frances Bannan Harris, Lucy A. Helms, Sally Hermany, Bessie A. Herndon, Helen Reber Hilton, Minna E. Holt, Atta Heebner Hummel, Jessie Parker Jennings, Anna Marshall Jones, Harriet Schertle Kear, Mary Barker Kingsbury, Katherine W. Kirk, Amelia Pott Klein, Caroline Bechtel Knittle, Josephine Bechtel Krugler, Hilorez Bechtel Kuick, Mildred S. Z. Lazarus, Magdalene Leinbach Leininger, Elizabeth Biddle Marshall, Anna Burkert Marshall, Elizabeth Zerbey Martz, Glenna Lyle Mengel, Kathryn Medlar Miller, Ora Graeff Mootz, Edna Wisotsky Moser, Jean Wren Muehlhof, Kathryn Kimmel Myers, Bertyne M. Guldin NeCollins, Ruth Bartholomew Nuss, Cora B. Darby Oday, Helen Claire Pflueger, Sarah E. Schertle Pilgram, Frances Chesebrough Pilgram, Bertha Seligman Pope, Loraine E. Richards Powers, Louisa Stites Quin.

Florence Saeger Richards, Kate Saunders Richards, Anna Zimmerman Richards, Josephine Roads, Annette Umbenhen Ryon, Ruth Snyder Sapper, Augusta Dreher Shay, Laurene Affleck Shoener, Margaret Parsons Shortley, Mabel Beck Silliman, Mary Beck Silliman, Marion Quick Simonds, Coreen A. Karns Skeen, Helen Rickard Smith, Bessie Grimes Snyder, Jennie Craig Snyder, Louisa Wright Strange, Marion Simonds Sutherland, Ida M. Hepler Swank, Elsie Thompson, Mary Chase Thurlow, Margaret Troutman, Nettie Donges Umbenhen, Elizabeth Fox Walter, Maude Snyder Warner, Alice Margaret Wilkinson, Augusta Roseberry Yuengling, Catherine Bannan Zerbey, Margaret Diefenderfer Zulick.

Yorkville Hose Co. A Progressive Body

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* November 25, 1933)

"The Republican" of Nov. 25th, 1931, contained an announcement of the sixth annual banquet which was being held by the Yorkville Hose Company and as the members are now making final plans for the eighth banquet, it is an opportune time to dwell upon the history of this splendid organization.

Dating back to the days before the borough of Yorkville was annexed to Pottsville, the Yorkville Hose and Fire Company, which is now in the Seventh ward of Pottsville, was in existence. The well equipped and ably directed fire-fighting organization actually sprang into existence on October 27th, 1891.

Court granted the company a charter on Feb. 2, 1892. The charter members were: Jacob Dimmerling, John T. Buehler, August Wachter, Chas. Benseman, Rudolph Wachter, James Gibb, Thos. Rowe, Ben Mahr, Jacob Biltheiser, Leonard Scheibellhut, John Long and George Wachter.

It is interesting to state that the first of the charter members for many years conducted at Yorkville the hotel and building used for dances, fairs and a place of public meetings, best known as "Dimmerling's Hall". August Wachter was prominent in the public eye and active in Democratic politics, having held membership in a number of organizations, officiated as clerk of the Yorkville Borough Council when the minutes were kept in Pennsylvania German and also served as a member of the Board of Auditors of Schuylkill County. Chas. Wachter

for many years held a commission as a justice of the peace in Yorkville. Ben Mahr, Rudolph Wachter and Leonard Scheibellhut were all business men about the time or after the company was founded. The other charter members were popular and highly esteemed residents of the Yorkville borough.

This fire organization had an humble beginning. Its first apparatus was a hand-drawn hose carriage which it bought from the Phoenix Hook and Ladder Co. of Pottsville during February, 1892. The hose carriage was originally purchased by the Hydraulian Hose and Fire Company (better known as "the Drollies" and later the Phoenix) from the Western Hose Company of Phila. It still bears upon it the name and date of 1846, which was when the Mexican War broke out, although the apparatus has been repainted several times. It was regarded for a number of years as a valuable heirloom and asset to the company.

The next purchase by the Yorkville Company on June 30, 1898, was a similar piece of apparatus from the Rescue Hose Company of Lykens.

Shortly after the organization of the company, it met in a small frame building, which was owned by the Yorkville borough council. After occupancy of some years, it was razed.

It was in 1907 that the company invested in a plot of ground, corner of 20th and Norwegian Streets. Upon this site they erected the handsome brick building which they now occupy. This was built at a cost of \$8,000. The organization moved into its new home during January, 1908.

This investment represented what was regarded as a considerable sum of money in those days. In order to pay off the debt, fairs were held annually by the company. This money was also used toward general maintenance and for the payment of current bills. From the first fair, there was realized \$500 which was maintained, as an average, until 1910 when the net sum realized was \$1,517.36.

The long-cherished ambition of the Yorkville Hose Company was realized in 1907 when it was admitted to membership in the Pottsville Fire Department. It is the youngest company, having become the seventh unit of the organization taking the place of the Atkins Fire Company which went out of existence during the spring of 1894.

The company is a beneficial organization, having paid sick and death benefits for many years. A little less than a decade ago there were 90 members in good standing. Activities during recent years have increased the membership to more than triple those figures, new ones being constantly added. Today, it is regarded as one of the most substantial organizations in the department. The Yorkville and West End Hose Companies are the only representatives of the Department which own the properties they occupy. The city is the owner of the properties used by the other fire companies.

It was less than eight years ago that the company was able to pay off the entire debt upon their property. The circumstance was made a big event by the fire organization who conducted a great jollification with the burning of the mortgage with suitable accompanying ceremonies.

It was during September 1912 that the Yorkville Hose Co. started to ex-

pand. They purchased a motor combination chemical and hose truck at a cost of \$5,500. The company made an investment in their Mack City Service truck at a cost of \$8,000 carrying full equipment.

Misfortune came during the winter of 1922 when their White chemical hose truck, which represented an investment of \$7,000 was destroyed by fire. The organization was conducting a series of social functions in the apparatus room. Successful fairs and dances were regularly held in the building. On these occasions, the fire apparatus was removed to afford room. For a while it was left parked in the open along Norwegian Street, near the home of the company. Then, as cold weather was experienced, it was kept in the Portland storage building, a short distance west of the hose house.

In some manner which has never been determined to this day, the building which housed the apparatus caught fire and was destroyed. The company could not get out the truck in time and it was burned.

Then, remarkable ability to rehabilitate itself was demonstrated by the company. No time was lost in building up an influential financial system. The members of the company made a canvass and, within ten days, they raised the funds necessary to restore their losses and place themselves on their former footing of a first class fire-fighting organization.

Then came the investment of the company in the White Triple Combination Truck, recently improved by installing a 95 gallon booster water tank upon it. This brought up the cost to a total of \$10,400. The original purchase price was \$10,000.

At present, the Yorkville Hose Co. has a fine home which, with all its fire equipment, is entirely free of debt. The fire-house is built of brick

with a handsome, pressed brick facade and attractive trimmings. In addition to the apparatus room, on the main floor, there is a second story in which are ante-rooms and the main meeting room.

During comparatively recent years, the cellar, or members' social quarters, was improved on an elaborate scale. A heavy concrete floor was laid. Heavy steel beams were placed beneath the apparatus room and it was strengthened in such manner that the weight of the apparatus stored above is easily maintained. The basement quarters are ample for every purpose for which they may be wanted. Culinary and heating equipment is installed there. Other features make it an ideal assembly place. All-in-all the officers and members of the Yorkville Company feel that their lines have, indeed, "fallen in pleasant places."

In the way of new equipment, the company recently purchased two all-service Burrell gas masks of the type that are approved by the United States Bureau of Mines. Competent instruction in their use is being given the members. The need of apparatus to enable the firemen to enter smoke-filled buildings with safety prompted agitation in the direction of investing in smoke masks. Finally, it was decided that the all-service masks would guarantee the best service, not only for smoke but for every other emergency that might arise.

In the near future, it is the purpose of the company to organize a first aid team for service to be given firemen who may be overcome while giving service or for those who might be otherwise injured in the pursuance of their duty. The work of training will be taken up by a competent local official. It is hoped that the service can be carried through on such a scale that it will vie with that now

afforded by many of the coal companies and power and light corporations.

The Yorkville Hose Company was the first member of the Pottsville Fire Department to inaugurate the custom of holding block parties. These functions have been conducted continuously for the past ten years without a break. Their annual banquets at Thanksgiving time are also always looked forward to. The 1933 banquet was the eighth one.

Three years ago, the company established what the firemen term as the "West End Community Christmas Tree." This has resolved into a Yuletide party for the children of that section of the city, the prettily trimmed tree is set up to the rear of the hose house. There are appropriate ceremonies and the programs are most attractive.

In association with these anniversary observances there is always a liberal distribution of fruit, oranges and candy to the children. Although this celebration is especially designed for the youngsters of the Yorkville Hose Company's "family", many others are invited to join in.

Aside from this function, much interest is taken by the firemen in the Boy Scout Troop of St. John's Parish, which has been frequently feted at the hose house.

The uniforms of the Yorkville Hose Company are decidedly attractive. They are of navy blue with sky blue trimmings and caps to match. During the past two decades, the company has figured prominently in public demonstrations held in the city and has paraded with their apparatus in various turnouts associated with the final days of the several conventions conducted within the area of the Six-County Firemen's Association, including Pottsville. They made a brave showing, a little less than ten years ago when

Joseph H. Zerbey History, Pottsville and Schuylkill County, Penna.

the delegates and organizations of the Association were entertained in convention in this city.

During 1920 the following officers served the company: George C. Ginther, President; Robert A. Knecht, Vice Pres.; Francis J. Buehler, Recording Secy.; Paul Buehler, Financial Secy.; Frank E. Burns, Treas.; Henry Gruber, Foreman; Frank Ackerman, Joseph Gardner, John Kraft, William Ginther, Fred Buehler, Edward Hoke, Charles Rosenberger, Louis Cohen, Paul Buehler, Assistant Foremen; Emanuel Marburger, John Pfluger, and Leo Smith, Company Trustees; Robert A. Knecht, Francis J. Buehler and Leo Smith, representatives of the Firemen's Relief Association, and the Fire Trustees.

The changes, in the officers, chosen in 1921 were: Leo Smith, August Hauptley and J. Pfluger, who were chosen company trustees. Two years later these officers were elected: George Ginther, President; Robert A. Knecht, Vice Pres.; August Hauptley and Paul Buehler, Secretaries; H.

Gruber, Foreman; Frank Burns, Treas.; August Hauptley, Leo Smith and John Pfluger, Company Trustees.

At the election of 1924 the officers elected were: Robert A. Knecht, President; Theodore Gruber, Vice Pres.; W. H. Powell, Recording Secy.; Paul Buehler, Financial Secy.; Francis Bubser, Foreman; Frank E. Burns, Treas.; Leo Smith, John Pfluger and William Brobst, Company Trustees.

The officers who are serving the company today are: George G. Smerko, President; Ed. Rehnert, Vice Pres.; Ed. Brahler, Recording Secy.; Paul J. Buehler, Financial Secy.; Frank E. Burns, Treas.; George W. Houser, George Wollyung and Carl Sipple, Company Trustees; George W. Houser, Robert A. Knecht and George G. Smerko, Representatives of the Firemen's Relief Association and of the Fire Trustees; Charles Gruber, Foreman; George G. Smerko, Chief Engineer. Mr. Knecht has been secretary of the Firemen's Relief Association for 21 years. Mr. Houser has served several terms as its vice president.



Atkins Fire Co. Went Out of Existence 1894

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* November 25, 1933)

The Atkins Fire Company, whose place the Yorkville Hose Company took in the borough Fire Department, was chartered Sept. 29, 1873, according to the data collected by the late Mrs. Ella Zerbey Elliott, who wrote a history of the Pottsville Fire companies a number of years ago.

The application for the charter was filed on that date at the Prothonotary's office and the charter was recorded in December, 1873.

The company was formed as a protection to the Fishbach mill and the adjacent property in the sixth ward. At that time, there was a Men's Club connected with a chapel in that part of the town. The club had been formed as a debating society and to provide recreation for the men who worked at the mill. There were about 125 members. A discussion arose as to what should be done with the dues which had been collected and it was resolved to form a fire company and appropriate the funds for the purchase of a hose carriage.

Some of the members of the company were: Chas. E. Beck, Ed. Gormley, W. Brazier, Hiram Morgan, Jos. S. Davies, George Skidmore, Luke Nash, Enos Blackman, Sr., Patrick Brown, Michael Larkin, Andrew Galligan, Lloyd Martz, L. W. Sharpless,

Ed. Lennon, Conrad Stoffregen, Henry Campbell and Thos. Vaughn.

The first hose carriage was built by D. G. Matthews. It was remodeled several times and rebuilt with a ball-bearing crank. The uniform adopted by the men consisted of black trousers, blue flannel shirt, white collar and black glazed cap.

The company met for a time in a small one and a half story frame building opposite Doerflinger's packing house. The borough built a brick building on the site of this building, the old frame building being sold for \$510.

April 17, 1894, the Atkins Fire Co. went out of existence, the borough minute book stating that, "the Borough being burdened with too many fire companies, the Atkins Company was read out of service."

In 1899, the brick house built by the Borough for the Fire Company was valued at \$2200. The building was sold to Harry Knerr, the contractor, who lived in it for a time and then sold it to Harry Weissinger, who remodeled it before using it as a residence. The hose carriage was stored in a stable for a time and during the Firemen's parade during the county Centennial in 1911, it was drawn by boys in the line of parade.

Influenza Took Heavy Toll In County

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* November 27, 1933)

While perusing the files, a small reference to the payment of the bills contracted during the influenza epidemic of 1918 recalled to mind that troublous time, which, while it may not be an actual historical happening, left its imprint on the county to such an extent that it is worthy of mention in passing.

Schuylkill County will long have occasion to remember the epidemic which in the space of a few weeks during October 1918 wiped out hundreds of her citizens, leaving many children orphans and many parents bereft of their loved ones.

There had been reports of the influenza playing havoc in various parts of the country and it was known that there were close to 2000 cases of what was believed to be La Grippe or heavy colds, which had been reported by the county physicians upon inquiry of the County Medical Inspector J. B. Rogers, but it was not until about October 4th of that year that the situation began to cause alarm.

On that date, an order was issued by the Commissioner of Health that all theatres, motion picture houses, saloons, dance halls, schools and churches should be closed down, that funerals should be strictly private and that all gatherings in crowds or visiting of the sick should be forbidden.

A survey by the "Republican" of the situation in the county showed that Minersville had already closed the schools because of the many cases of what they believed to be La

Grippe; that Tamaqua reported close to 400 cases; Frackville, 300 and Cressona and Sch. Haven had about 600 between them and were asking to have the schools closed to prevent further spread; Pottsville and Shenandoah and St. Clair seemed to be practically free of the influenza. But, within the next 36 hours, over 500 cases of influenza were reported in the city of Pottsville alone.

Over the week-end, the disease spread like wildfire and on Monday the health authorities found that there were about 7500 cases, and that many deaths had been reported in the county. Minersville alone had 1750 cases and 47 deaths up to that time. State doctors and nurses had been rushed to Minersville on Sunday and two emergency hospitals were opened up with county equipment.

Frackville reported 480 cases and an emergency hospital was opened in the Hose House. In Pottsville, the Milliken Home, on Greenwood Hill, and the State Armory were fitted out at once as hospitals. Dr. M. C. Householder took charge at the Armory and Dr. G. H. Boone at the Milliken Home. Reports from the West End said that Pinegrove and Tower City were severely affected and from the Schuylkill Valley came the report that there were 500 cases, with Maryd being the worst, there being a case in almost every household. Industries were hampered by lack of workers and the mines were working shorthanded everywhere.

Although Pottsville was about the least affected of the county towns, all the relief measures were center-

ed here. The hospital and colliery ambulances were kept constantly making trips and the physicians were taxed to the limit to keep up with the patients. By noon of October 7th, Minersville had reported 56 deaths and Frackville, 11 with many more momentarily expected.

The streets of the towns were deserted. The health authorities had impressed upon everyone the wisdom of not congregating in crowds and the only places where there was a number of people at one time were the drug stores where people by the scores were clamoring for their prescriptions to be filled. With the arrival of the state reserve militia and a hospital unit of 12 men with ambulance, patients were brought to the Armory from Minersville and Frackville and Arnout's Addition where a serious outbreak had been reported. Red Cross workers assisted the militia and trained nurses. The Boy Scouts supplied messenger service between the drug stores and physicians.

Then, the doctors began to feel the strain. One death was reported among them and ten doctors and two nurses were reported seriously ill in the hospitals. Dr. Rogers himself was directing the work from a sick-bed. The American Rescue Workers, who had been helping, were stricken and Capt. Hainly and eight of his force were taken sick. The ministers of the town responded nobly and gave aid to the nurses and doctors.

By October 9th, it seemed as if the situation were well in hand as far as Pottsville was concerned, there being few new cases reported here while Shenandoah, St. Clair and the Mahanoy Valley gave little cause for alarm but Minersville, Frackville, Sch. Haven and Cressona had a grave situation on their hands. The chief work was concentrated on keeping down the pneumonia cases which were the ones resulting fatally.

The shortage of supplies was relieved when the state sent in blankets, sheets and pillow cases and a consignment of 500 cots. Oct. 10th, twenty advanced medical students from the University of Pittsburgh were sent into the region, over a score of the county doctors being seriously ill from overwork. However, although there was an increase in cases, Landingville and Hegins being added to the infected area, yet the mortality rate was lower in every town except Minersville. The less serious cases were being treated at home and those with pneumonia tendencies were rushed to the hospitals. Dr. Thorne was in charge at Buck Run; Dr. O'Donnell at Heckscherville; Dr. Ryland was handling the section from Oak Hill to the Gap and the New York physicians which had been sent in were in charge at Llewellyn, Seltzer City and Mar-Lin; Dr. Hogan was at Maryd and Dr. J. P. Morris and Dr. R. F. Weaver supervised the St. Clair region until themselves stricken.

With 20 medical students and surgeons from the Allentown Army Camp and 25 professional nurses from Elmira and Rochester, the situation was improved by October 11, although it was known that the mortality list would not be at the greatest pinnacle until about a week later, and that Minersville would have an appalling list.

It was decided to suspend all business at noon on Saturday, Oct. 12th, so that there would be no gathering of shoppers. The report of the week's work showed that eighteen emergency hospitals had been established; three each at Minersville and Pottsville, and one each at Girardville, Gilberton, Frackville, Port Carbon, Maryd, Tamaqua, Sch. Haven, Tremont and Mahanoy City. By Monday Oct. 14, the number of cases had reached 17,000 in the county. Many of the

mines of the county were forced to suspend operations and the trolleys were operating very infrequently because of a shortage of crews; the telephone companies were also beginning to show the effects of their heavy load of calls.

The county undertakers were unable to handle the many cases and undertakers from Reading were called to help out.

With the arrival of more army doctors, the county was practically under military rule. The strict quarantine regulations were beginning to bear fruit and the instructions to those who had been in homes where there had already been cases of the disease were given so plainly that the cases showed a decrease daily. The high mark in the mortality rate was reached in Pottsville on Oct. 15th when 25 deaths were reported within 24 hours. A convalescent hospital was opened at the Pottsville Mission to which children were taken after being treated at the Armory. The problem of caring for the children when they were ready to return home was a serious one for, in many cases, the parents had died of the influenza.

Over the week end of Oct. 19th, a decided improvement was noticeable throughout the county. The Tower City situation was not encouraging, however, as 65 deaths had been reported in that area and in Pottsville one of the doctors sent from New York by the government had died as had also one of the trained nurses.

By Oct. 24th, the epidemic had abated sufficiently to allow the army doctors to leave, some of them going overseas for duty and others to army camps in this country. Over a hundred had been in service in

the county during the epidemic. While there were still a great many deaths among the patients who had contracted pneumonia, new cases were not developing and in Pottsville alone the cases dropped a thousand in a week.

On Oct. 30, the Board of Health removed all restrictions, and the following Sunday, the churches resumed their services and the school children returned to their studies on Monday.

The influenza had taken a fearful toll in the county. St. Clair had 121 deaths, Pottsville had 229 resident deaths and 178 non-resident and Minersville over 400. The foreign born population suffered most severely, for in many cases they did not seek medical aid until they were too seriously ill to be saved and by that time, many in the family had also contracted the disease. 3,000 children were left orphans, 500 of that number being without anyone to take care of them.

The cost of the epidemic bills was \$49,818.64. The grand total of the bills, \$91,000, was cut down to the net amount given, by the payment of \$15,181.36 by the state and \$26,000 by corporations.

The list of liabilities follows: Pottsville, \$11,108.51; Girardville, \$1,146.29; Coaldale, \$5,978.09; St. Clair, \$655.49; Blackwood, \$72.47; New Phila., \$81.71; Tower City, \$3,021.30; Hegins, \$9.07; Branchdale, \$130.46; Maryd, \$488.33; Tremont, \$1,153.06; Mahanoy City, \$5,493.55; Pt. Carbon, two hospitals, \$5,548.90; Tamaqua, \$4,837.15; Minersville \$2,787.51; Frackville, \$2,527.43; Gilberton, \$985.15; Buck Run, \$426.55; Shenandoah, \$5,514.03; Shenandoah Orphanage, \$162.61; Total, \$49,818.64.

Liederkranz Nears Diamond Jubilee

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* November 28, 1933)

"The Liederkranz celebrated the golden anniversary in its hall, Centre and Mahantongo Sts., Monday evening, (Nov. 28, 1921), with the officers of the city and a host of guests joining the well known organization in the observance of the event"—from the "Republican" of Nov. 29, 1921.

Schuylkill County and Pottsville, in particular, has a musical reputation second to none in Pennsylvania, in proportion to the population. Almost from the time when the county seat became a borough in 1828, musical organizations possessing remarkable talent have existed. At various times, organizations have sprung up and, after flourishing for a while, have disbanded.

Among the few organizations that survived the years is the Pottsville Liederkranz which, in its time, comprised many fine voices of the community. It was, from its inception, composed of Germans. There had been meetings for "saeng fests" of an informal character but it was not until Sept. 19, 1871 that the talented organization assumed steady existence carrying it through the flight of many years down to the present time.

On account of the many members having reached ages when vocal activities lost their former charm and because of many members having died, during recent years rehearsals had to be dispensed with for the reason that it was impossible to get together more than a "corporal's guard" to prepare music for creditable rendition. Yet, on special occasions, the members are brought to-

gether for informal concerts conducted in their own quarters and also to contribute selections to the entertainments which were held on each recurring "Fastnacht" anniversary.

Dust-covered piles of minute books of the Liederkranz, all kept in the German language, upon examination show that its permanent "gegrundet" or organization was on Sept. 19, 1871. However, surviving aged members of the society assert that they know the Liederkranz was in existence in November of 1860.

It got real impetus, however, due to the elaborate jubilee celebration in Pottsville during 1870 after the close of the Franco-Prussian War. Old German residents of this city still hark back to that function as the most remarkable ever conducted in Schuylkill County under the auspices of the German-speaking people.

In association with the German jubilee there was a wonderful parade with elaborate floats, which partook somewhat of the character of the recent NRA celebration. There was a real, old-fashioned Teutonic picnic held in Agricultural Park after the parade and a great ball in Centennial Hall concluded the festivities.

With such a historical background, German traditions were kept alive by a varied form of social gatherings of its members. These were held for years in Centennial Hall. They were featured by the annual "Fastnacht" ball which was conducted immediately after the close of the Lenten season, oftentimes on Easter Monday.

While the selections by the Liederkrantz, when it was under well-attended rehearsals, were always enjoyed, the organization also fostered other forms of entertainment in which the members and their families played a conspicuous part. German songs of the type not used in the general ensemble entertaining of the Liederkrantz were learned and encouragement was given for participation in the carefully prepared programs by the juveniles of the families of the members. The talent brought out was by those whose ages ran from youth to ripe old age. These annual gatherings, characterized by song, declamations, general elocutionary efforts and also instrumental contributions, in connection with the dances were always eagerly awaited. At the dances, the waltz, polka, schottische and quadrilles were danced in true German manner, with noted elderly people being prevailed upon at times to participate in them. The attendance was always large. Feasts, comprising German dishes and relishes, were always enjoyed. The general entertainment features were outstanding in their type and were ample to meet every demand.

The Pottsville Liederkrantz, in its prime, under the capable directorship of Prof. Leo Schwarze, who was for many years organist and choirmaster of St. John's Catholic Church, was no mean antagonist as their success attests, oftentimes being successful in various "saengerfests" and other musical competitions in which they participated. They were pitted against German "Maennerchors", male glee clubs similar to their own type in singing contests throughout the Anthracite region, with such organizations at Ashland, Girardville and other points about the county competing against them.

During the years of their virility they satisfactorily contested against

many organizations in "saengerfests" which took them far from their own firesides but, particularly, to Reading, Allentown, Williamsport and Philadelphia. These were usually conducted toward the close of the summer when available fruits and vegetables were brought direct from the harvest fields. The fruits of the harvest would be piled in a towering column, presenting a unique and most beautiful spectacle indeed.

The notable achievements of the Pottsville Liederkrantz in their contests abroad were those at Williamsport and Philadelphia from which they brought home well-earned prizes. These, with accompanying certificates, are still cherished by the surviving members of the organization. Their championship timbre as vocalists was best shown at the Williamsport "Saengerfest," which was held on July 4th and 5th, several years after their rehabilitation late in the 'seventies, when there were 40 talented well trained singers and a supporting membership of about 200. Most of the latter did not claim any special recognition as singers but they furnished the "bone and sinew" which made it possible for the Liederkrantz to survive and last as a permanent organization for a period considerably more than 62 years. The 75th or diamond jubilee of the actual founding of the Pottsville Liederkrantz will be observed two years hence.

Some interest centers about the various points where the organization held their rehearsals and social functions during the years of their existence. Their initial location was in the old Casino, a brick building in the Stoffregen property. Then it occupied a primitive rendezvous on Railroad St. Rehearsals were next conducted in the old Thompson building on West Market St., an old brick structure which occupied the site

on which was built the present Thompson building.

The location where the organization had probably the longest tenure of its existence was in the old Seitz building, later the Odd Fellows Building on S. Centre St. Then it met in the Prifer-Raring building for a long time. Its present meeting place is at Post's Hall on E. Race St.

Surviving the ravages of time, one corner of the present quarters of the organization is occupied by the old "secretaire" or primitive type of desk topped with curtained-glass doors, behind which are shelves containing the books and records of the organization. All the records are kept in German script, some of the pages being so worn and faded that they can hardly be read.

In other parts of the hall are framed pictures containing certificates referring to the singing prowess of the Liederkrantz when the vocal organization was in its halcyon days. There are flags and stands of colors which date back into the misty years of the illustrious past of the Liederkrantz. There are also framed group photographs showing some of the memorable experiences of the German singers.

Conspicuous are pictures subscribed with many quaint German sayings. The latter confront one in almost every nook and cranny of the hall. On the walls are also framed pictures of the great German masters, Schiller, Mozart, Wagner, Beethoven and others.

In the successful days of the Pottsville Liederkrantz, reflection conjures up recollections of the picturesque character of the members included. Among the number was A. W. Schalck, Esq., prominent attorney and his father, Pottsville's primitive gunsmith, prominent in organized shooting contests, inventor of rifles and guns and winner of many

trophies at home and throughout the Middle States.

Nicholas Dennebaum, former brewmeister at the Yuengling brewery, still surviving, was among the active members. He is now an octogenarian and makes his home in Reading. Then, there was Carl Elison, Chas. F. ("Yank") Seltzer, Max Minderjahn, who was president for years, Nicholas Mies, G. C. Schrink, former postmaster and Pottsville representative in the State Legislature.

The late Henry Somers was one of the representative members. He was a talented singer and proprietor for years of a N. Centre St. barber shop. George Lecher, with his sonorous bass voice, was another valued member.

Jacob Ulmer Sr., founder of the Ulmer Meat Packing House, Henry Loechel, whose bakery on N. Centre St., was patronized by the community for the best part of a century and Louis F. Stoffregen, former postmaster, were among the early names carried on the rolls of the Liederkrantz. John Eisler, Sr., of Jalappa and August Knecht were among the older members who were active for years. Among the members of later years have been, Leonard C. Schuettler, Rudolph Schutz, Joseph Gustager, Adolph Naundorf, Joseph Post, Gus Schuettler, Frank D. Yuengling, Joseph Glaser, Jos. W. Geary, Sr., who was chairman of the house committee for a number of years and Robert A. Knecht, long an office holder.

The Liederkrantz was musically directed during the many years of its prosperity by Wm. Vetinghof, for many years a local office employe of the P. & R. C. & I. Co.; Henry A. Becker, tutor of Charlemagne Tower, Jr., and father of Mrs. Martha Esterly, Pottsville; Prof. Leo Schwarze, organist at St. John's

Church; Prof. R. A. Hausman, who was an influential musical factor in Pottsville for many years; Prof. Al. Jores, at one time organist and choir-master of Trinity Lutheran Church and who occupied a prominent place in the musical affairs of Pittsburgh; Robert Braun, head of the Braun School of Music and Henry A. Fliegel, a baritone singer of the Famous Forty chorus.

In the "Republican" issue of September 9, 1892, there appeared the following:

"The Pottsville Liederkrantz, one of our musical institutions, have removed to rooms over Suter's merchant tailoring establishment on Market Street, which are a credit to the organization. They have furnished them in a comfortable manner and have purchased and placed in the rehearsal room an excellent and fine-tone upright piano.

"The membership, under the leadership of Prof. Leo Schwarze, shows an increase and there is a marked improvement in their musical work. The roll now shows the names of 17 active members, many of whom are our most influential German citizens. New music is constantly being added to the repertoire.

"At the last meeting there was an election when the following officers were chosen: Martin Burkhardt, president; Henry Freiman, vice president; Leopold Eberwein, secretary; George Schmidt, assistant secretary; George Lecher, treasurer; Henry Somers, collector; George Leinheiser, librarian; Prof. Leo Schwarze, musical director; Henry Ruppert, John Krieg and George Schadt, trustees.

"The new officers were elected to serve for the ensuing six months. A committee was appointed to draft new rules and regulations, for the government

of the society, with the following personnel: Messrs. Henry Somers, George Schmidt, Prof. Leo Schwarze, John Krieg and Henry Ruppert."

Joseph Post, delving into the records of the days when the Liederkrantz sprang into existence, tried to decipher some of the early secretarial entries, recorded in the hand writing of the various early officials, some of them evidently having been none too good penmen. He found that the earliest minutes preserved of the meetings of the Liederkrantz were those of March 16, 1874. The charter chairmen, who presided at these meetings were A. P. Roedelberger, a relative of Anthony Redelberger, the hotelman whose place of business was at S. Centre and Union Sts., and who at his death in comparatively recent years, was the oldest resident having attained to the age of 103 years, John Bechtel, G. Hacussler and M. Burkhart.

W. H. Brunning seems to have been the first regularly installed secretary. There seems to be no actual date of record as to when the Liederkrantz was chartered but it is believed that it was not long after 1870.

The first permanent officers elected by the Liederkrantz were chosen in 1875 and were as follows: Joseph Hornung, President; George Lecher, Vice President; Jacob Suter and Henry Jungkurth, Secretaries, and Frank Schilling, Treasurer.

The officers serving today are: Leonard C. Schuettler, President; Joseph J. Post, Secretary; August Schuettler, Treasurer; Rudolph Schutz, Fred Trachte and Carl Zeller, Trustees.

Many Years Before Armory Was Reality

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* November 29, 1933)

On Nov. 29th, 1912, the local committee in charge of securing an armory for Pottsville was notified by the state that the contract for the Armory had been awarded.

Although Pottsville for the period of over a century had been in the forefront of the national and state military achievements, it was not until February 1914 that the city had a building devoted exclusively to military purposes.

The present structure dedicated in that year had been the subject of public discussion for a quarter of a century, first newspaper reports of an effort to provide an armory for the local military companies being noted in 1890, when the first City Armory Association was formed.

It was not until 18 years later, October 21, 1908, when the Hummel fire, one of the major conflagrations in city history, wiped out the quarters of the two companies up to that time, that the movement obtained any material impetus and it was five years later when the construction of the present brick and limestone structure was started.

The building was formally dedicated February 23rd, 1914. Washington's birthday fell on a Sunday that year with the consequent observance on Monday.

The first intimation of a public movement to provide an armory for the three military units of the city at that time, Co. F., Fourth Regiment, Co. H., Eighth Regiment and the Third Brigade Band, was on October 22nd, 1890 when announcement

was made that the officers of the military companies, Captain E. D. Smith and Captain George A. Harris, together with band officials were planning to organize an armory association to finance a structure on a stock basis. One of the sites discussed was the location of the skating rink then on the eastern side of Centre Street, just north of the present Washington Street bridge. The rink was run by a man by the name of Dempsey.

The site of the Logue building at Union Street was also discussed as was the Kopitsch estate property at Third and Laurel Sts.

On January 30th, 1891, an agreement was signed by the association for the purchase of the Nathan Pritchard lot at Fourth and Laurel Sts.

This, however, did not materialize and at a meeting held on March 22nd it was decided to purchase the P. Loeser and Kline properties on South Centre St., opposite the American house. The Kline property was located adjoining corner property at Union and Centre. This action followed a meeting three days previous at which Capt. George Harris and Lieut. Col. George Ryon presided as president and secretary. The directors elected included Dr. G. H. Halberstadt, Capt. E. D. Smith, Capt. G. A. Harris, Mason Weidman, H. J. Jungkurth, John Bishop, Burd S. Patterson, Col. Ryon and Myer Strouse.

The plan was to issue 1,000 shares of stock at \$10 a share, \$1000 of which had already been subscribed.

The cost of the building and site was \$15,000.

The City Armory Association at the time planned to get into court and apply for a charter.

On Sept. 14th following, announcement was made by the "Republican" that the board of directors had awarded the contract of the new armory to H. R. Knerr of this city.

At that time, the Phila. and Reading railroad was reported to have subscribed \$750 to the project and hopes were held that other lines in the city would contribute. Business houses and individuals reported contributing were D. G. Yuengling, A. W. and W. L. Sheaffer, T. H. Shollenberger, William Atkins, Daniel McGurl, J. M. Wetherill, Dr. P. K. Filbert, J. W. Schrader, Rosengarten Bros., C. F. Rahn, Joseph Nichter and Mortimer Bros.

A year and a half later on May 18, 1893, the same paper carried the announcement that the property of the City Armory Association had been taken over by the sheriff. The writ was issued at the instance of Charles Loeser from whom the lots had been purchased.

Once more the matter dropped and it was not until October that it was divulged that the local Evangelical Asso., otherwise known as the Dub-sites, had been in consultation with Loeser for the purchase of the armory site on South Centre St.

The following year on July 26, the P. O. S. of A. lodges of the city entered the field, announcement being made that the members of the three camps were perfecting a plan to purchase the armory lot. It was announced that the front of the building would be higher than that contemplated by the national guard and that a lodge room would be added but that the original plans for an armory and two stores would be followed. The lodges consisting of

Camps 500, 14 and 36 estimated that some \$14,000 would be needed for the project. However, this plan failed to materialize and the South Centre St. lot as an armory location was abandoned on March 30th, 1895 when the United Evangelical congregation purchased the ground for \$6,000. Subsequently, the church edifice now occupying the site was started, and the move for an armory in the southern section of the city came to an end.

It was not until ten years later on Feb. 11, 1905 that the two military companies engaged in a joint movement to have the Legislature pass an armory bill carrying a \$10,000 appropriation for each company for the construction of an armory.

Two years later, a meeting was held at the Pottsville club for the purpose of pushing forward the erection of an armory in the city. This meeting found many of the prominent figures in the city and those later to be directly connected with the erection of the armory present.

The group included: Col. James Archbald, Major G. H. Halbertstadt, Lieut. G. E. Gangloff, the present Orphan's court judge; Col. N. S. Farquhar, Capt. E. D. Smith, C. P. Hoffman, E. C. Luther, Jacob Ulmer, W. H. Lewis, Major W. L. Owens, W. L. Sheaffer, W. J. Richards, John Reber, Major H. S. Thompson, R. E. Lee, G. W. Farquhar and Capt. D. H. Seibert, in conference on the matter.

The demand for an armory increased with the companies finding that the Hummel Hall where they were located was becoming less desirable and this dissatisfaction was followed on March 15th, 1907, by Co. F. renting three rooms in the Russel Building, Second and Mahantongo St. This was a temporary arrangement, as it was felt that the possibility of an armory being secured

was becoming more and more probable.

March 1st, 1909 dissatisfaction on the part of the United Evangelical Congregation with the location of their church property under construction, brought an intimation that the Armory matter might once more be taken to South Centre St. by the repurchase of the church site and the portion of the building, already constructed, by the military companies.

This movement died out, however, and when the Hummel fire had wiped out the old meeting quarters, 1910 found the officers of the two companies making plans for minor changes in the old Y. M. C. A. structure which was occupied as an armory on April 1st of that year. The drill space was small but the rooms and gymnasium awakened new interest in the military companies and gave them their first real impetus in years.

Co. F, at this time was officered by Capt. Mellon, First Lieut. Knebel and Second Lieut. Gressang.

Interest in armories for the county was further increased by the start of Company B's new armory at Tam-aqua, which got under way on April 18th, 1910.

January 25th, 1911 brought the definite announcement that the state would provide an armory if a site were secured. A site at Centre and Arch Sts., was talked over, Coal and Washington Sts. was considered, as was the rear of the Grammar School park, but it finally developed that the site next to the Hummel store was the one which evoked the chief interest on the part of the state authorities. It was announced that action would have to be taken on the part of the state in its movement for armories which had been accelerated by this time, would consider other towns first. The new project was given

added momentum when Major C. Bowe Dougherty came to Pottsville on Feb. 21st to look over the proposed sites.

Major General Dougherty was taken on a tour of the city by Captains S. B. Edwards and H. H. Mellon and George H. Halberstadt and the following July while in camp at Mt. Gretna, Captains Edwards and Mellon were notified that the state had \$33,000 available for an armory and that if the city provided a site, it might be possible to have the sum increased to \$50,000.

Quick action followed. Upon the return of the companies from Mt. Gretna, a meeting was held on July 18th and an organization formed to secure the site. Capt. Edwards headed the organization with Capt. Mellon, Treas., Lieut. D. S. Gressang, Secty. and Sergt. James E. Burr, Assistant secretary.

Three days later half of the money needed for the purchase of the site was reported available.

R. S. Bashore, owner of the site, dropped his price from \$12,000 to \$10,000 and in addition offered to contribute \$1,000 to the project. J. W. Conrad, real estate agent, contributed his commission on the deal and the Centennial Association which had a balance in the treasury, contributed another \$100.

The Pottsville Land and Improvement Company, which was developing the Greenwood Hill section, donated a lot to the committee with the stipulation that it be sold and the proceeds added to the fund.

By Sept. 19th, \$7,000 of the amount needed had been contributed and Capt. Edwards appeared before city council and informed that body that the county commissioners would contribute if council would do likewise. Council promptly voted to contribute \$1,000 to the fund.

The money for the site was soon available and with the committee going ahead with these plans the state announced that the amount available for the building would be increased to \$50,000.

On January 26th, 1912, the first plans for the new building arrived and it appeared that the construction of the building would be delayed by the necessity of raising additional funds locally.

The matter hung fire until the 29th of November when the local committee was informed the contract had been awarded. Wertley Brothers of this city were the winning contractors at a bid of \$38,000, and announcement was made the work would be started in the spring of 1913.

In the meantime, the local committee conferred with the Armory Board regarding the building, and the contract was held in abeyance until new plans could be drawn up. December 19, 1912, the contract was definitely awarded to the Wertley firm at a cost of \$41,032.

The plans arrived in January, and Contractor Wertley prepared to start work at once. The plans called for the present building, 83x120 feet in dimensions, and two and a half stories in height, to be built of brick and Indiana limestone. The drill space was fixed at 60x80 feet.

The dedication of the building took place on February 23rd, the following year, and was one of the outstanding affairs of that year.

The dedicatory services, which were held in the new building, were preceded by a parade which was confined to Centre St. because of the inclement weather.

Colonel Daniel Nagle, of Mexican War fame, and General O. C. Bosbyshell, of the 48th Regiment, of Civil War fame, were among the marchers,

the former being the honorary marshal.

C. P. Hoffman was the active marshal, and he led the parade, followed by the 48 men of Troop C, State Police, under Captain C. M. Wilhelm.

The Merchants Association followed next in the line of march, after which Prof. Fred Gerhardt led the Third Brigade Band. The two military companies in full equipment followed.

The Spanish American War Veterans were next in line under Commander William Graeff, the Fourth Regiment Drum Corps, under Captain Charles Schlottman, furnishing the music.

The Moose Lodge had the Orwigsburg Band, while the Boys' Band of Pottsville, headed the P. O. S. of A.

The fire department, under Chief James Lynaugh, also paraded, their music being furnished by the American Drum Corps, and the A. O. H. Band of Heckscherville.

A notable list of military figures of the state were present at the dedicatory services.

They included: Major General C. Bowe Dougherty, Adjutant General T. J. Stewart, Colonel C. T. O'Neil, Colonel James B. Hutchinson, Colonel L. V. Rausch, General G. B. Coryell, Major R. W. Montelius, Captain J. C. Biddle and Colonel F. D. Beary, all of whom later rose to some of the highest ranks in the National Guard of the state.

Rev. T. Carson Hanna, of the Baptist Church, delivered the invocation; Captain W. G. Mellon opened the exercises and introduced Major Dougherty and General Stewart, who accepted the building on behalf of the state, while Captain Smith accepted the Armory on behalf of the community.

Joseph H. Zerbey History, Pottsville and Schuylkill County, Penna.

Dr. J. H. Eastman, of the First Presbyterian Church, delivered the benediction.

The Armory was tastefully decorated for the occasion in the American colors, while an added military tinge was given the exercises by the martial music of the Third Brigade Band, which reached its peak in the playing of Von Suppe's "Light Cavalry Overture," the rendition of which was enhanced by the firing of blank cartridges by Lieutenant Burr, later captain of Company H.

The dedicatory exercises were followed that night by a military ball, which was graced by the presence of Governor and Mrs. John K. Tener, Secretary to the Governor and Mrs. W. H. Goether, and the entire group of legislative representatives, headed by State Senator C. A. Snyder.

The ball, a colorful affair because of the brilliant gowns of the ladies and the full military dress of the men, was opened with a grand march, participated in by 59 couples.

Newspaper accounts of the affair stated that lemonade and pretzels were served as refreshments.

The list of contributors to the Armory site fund included: Pottsville Borough, Sheaffer Est., Schuylkill County, W. J. Richards, Safe Deposit Bank, A. W. Sheaffer, Company F and Company H, Madeira Hill & Company, Miners National Bank, Schuylkill Trust Company, Pottsville Water Company, Union Safe Deposit Bank, Hummel Bros., Yuengling Brewing Company, Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart, Centennial Committee, James Archbald, B. W. Cumming, Charles F. King, Mrs. R. C. Luther, J. Miehle & Son, Rettig Brewing Company, L. C. Thompson, Ulmer Packing Company, Mrs. C. W. Atkins, T. G. Allan's Sons, J. B. Cul-lum, Hugh Dolan, W. Buechley, G. H. Halberstadt, S. H. Kaercher, Mer-

chants Association, Max Rehman, Heber H. Thompson, Mrs. Heber S. Thompson, Misses Bannan, J. F. Whalen, Weissinger Bros., C. A. Snyder, Edmund Smith, William Seltzer.

M. Schoeneman, George M. Roads, W. D. Pollard, Charles Myers, Joseph M. Moyer, C. Messersmith, Mrs. R. F. Lee, Lee Bros., George W. Jungkurth, Baird Halberstadt, Forty-Eighth Regiment, Guy E. Farquhar, J. W. Beecher, Bright & Company, Britton-Hoffman Company, Frank G. Clemens, W. K. Woodbury, John H. Davis, Robert Allison, W. H. Mortimer, Pottsville Bolt Company, W. H. Lewis, E. J. Miller, Walter Wertley Sons.

D. W. Althouse, G. W. Bower, Charles T. Brown, James Buck, G. T. Burd, Albert Cable, W. H. Chambers, George H. Clemens, W. A. Cochran, George H. DeFrehn, Thomas I. Deibert, H. L. Eber, George Ellis, E. M. Enterline, Norman Farquhar, Joseph Fisher, I. Gellert, Gowen Post, G. A. R., Robert C. Green, Jr., W. Griesbaum, G. B. Hadesty, John H. Hanney, John Hock, John R. Hoffman, E. G. Hoover, Edward C. Kaercher, Mrs. Thomas Keck, George A. Klare, W. L. Marquardt, S. C. Cummings, J. A. Medlar, N. C. Morrison, Charles W. Mortimer, W. H. Newell, W. Guy Payne, W. I. Rahn, John Raring, Mrs. T. H. Rickert, Van Dusen Rickert, J. G. Royal, I. L. Rubinsky, Mrs. A. W. Schalck, Albert Schappell, Paul Sheaffer, Shoener Bros., Charles Smith, St. Clair, M. L. Sterner, T. W. Swalm, J. H. Swaving, W. F. Weber, K. C. Wilson, Yerger & Jones, Warmkessel Bros., H. S. Sterner.

George Smith, H. Schweikert, C. F. Schultz & Bros., E. J. Scheerer, Frank Roseberry, Robert Phillips, John Perry, J. J. McKinstry, James Moran, G. R. Moll, W. C. Miller, John

F. Miller, Henry Meyer, P. J. Martin, Fred Hause, A. Krebs, J. H. Dinger, Daniel Donne, Doutrich & Company, Albert Esterly, E. S. Filbert, E. S. Foulk, H. E. Atkins, W.

H. Bearstler, George W. Beddall, George Bornhard, T. J. Birch, Port Carbon, Isaac Brenner, Charles H. Brown, William Prifer and Joseph Johnson.



Greenwood Hill Had Rapid Growth

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* November 30, 1933)

During the month of November, 1897, we read in the "Republican" of the transfer of twenty lots belonging to the Benj. Bannan Estate to Isachar Robbins, of Wilkes-Barre and his son, Isaac R. Robbins, of Pottsville.

These lots which were referred to in the item were those located on what is now Adams Street, Greenwood Hill. For many years, the homes erected by the Messrs. Robbins, on the south side of Adams Street, east of George, the Milliken home, the C. H. Woltjen home, the Snyder farm and a few other homes were the only ones which were located there.

Among the many additions that have been made to Pottsville, from time to time, associated with the steady growth of the city, the development of the Greenwood Hill section is one of the most interesting. This is because it sprang up from farm acres into what is regarded as one of the most desirable residential parts of the city in a much shorter time, relatively speaking, than any of the other additions dating, as some do, to pre-Civil War days.

But, before going into the comparatively recent development of Greenwood Hill, let us think a little about its early days. The history of this section goes back many years to the time when Pottsville itself was in its infancy. in spite of the fact that Greenwood Hill as we have come to know it has only had the full privilege of the city for a small period of eighteen years.

On the eastern side of the hill is a

little cemetery plot, which tells the mute story of those who first occupied that particular portion of the city. The plot contains the graves of the Young Brothers, who opened Young's Landing Coal Mine and lived on what is now Greenwood Hill. These three brothers came from England and all three died of pulmonary trouble after having been here for some years. Andrew Younge, as the name was evidently originally spelled was a barrister at law and died on July 6th, 1827 when 29 years of age. John Younge died July 6th, 1834 when 41 years of age and Robert Younge on July 15th, 1835 when 40 years old.

In 1855, George Snyder bought a large plot of ground on Greenwood Hill from Isaac Starr and prior to that in 1834, he had come into possession of a plot through a deal between himself and Benj. Bannan. Another portion of the hill was owned by Benj. Haywood, the administrator of the Younge Estate and was purchased by Mr. Snyder from him. Mr. Snyder, now having accumulated 47 acres of land from various sources, worked it as a farmland. He took especial pride in his orchard, part of which still remains in that section known as Orchard Lane. The old farmhouse of Mr. Snyder is still standing.

In an interview with J. W. Fleet, retired business man and former member of City Council, we learned that during the spring of 1907, Mr. Fleet and the late S. B. Edwards, Esq., purchased the Snyder farm, then comprising 47 acres, for the sum of \$30,000. Later, Conrad K. Hock was

associated with them. Under this triumvirate, "The Pottsville Land and Improvement Co." was incorporated with the following officers: Pres., J. W. Fleet, Secretary and Solicitor, S. B. Edwards and Treasurer, Conrad K. Hoek.

The Improvement Co. named it Greenwood Hill in honor of the Greenwood Family and because of the fact that it had been originally called the Greenwood tract, under state ownership.

No time was lost, after the company was chartered, in having the plot of ground surveyed. Plotting began and preparations were inaugurated to encourage building of homes in that section. The surveys and laying out of lots were done by the veteran engineer, Andrew B. Cochran, surveyor of the Pottsville Borough for many years, who was associated in business with his son, Wm. Cochran, under the firm name of Cochran & Son.

It was under the supervision of Wm. S. Pugh, for a number of years Borough Engineer and, later, the first engineer when Pottsville took up the city form of government, that the street grades were established and then adopted by the municipality. The company cut all streets to grade and curbs, gutters and sidewalks were installed, as were sewers and water mains along all the streets. These improvements were all paid for by the promoting company, which

also arranged for laying gas mains beneath the streets and added poles and wires to carry electric current for lighting homes and illuminating the streets. For many years, all streets were maintained and all street lighting with the placing of fire plugs were paid for by the company. A new plan had been adopted for placing pole lines, all the poles being planted in the alleys instead of along the streets. Shade trees were planted along the pavements and all prospective builders of homes were required to erect their houses back for a distance of 10 to 25 feet from the line of the streets. On some streets there were restrictions as to the quality and kind of building erected.

Then came the time when the company considered the Greenwood Hill addition to Pottsville about completed. They then offered the new section to the city and on July 3rd, 1915, council formally admitted Greenwood Hill to the city and has since maintained it as part of the city property.

Of the 200 or more homes now in that section, some of them were built by the Improvement Co., but most of them were erected by the owners of the various plots. It is a notable fact that most of the homes are owned by the occupants. The Improvement Co. spent the same amount as the purchase price, \$35,000 to make the Hill suitable for the general home building that has been done there.



Anti-Tuberculosis Society Program

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* November 30, 1933)

On this date, twenty-five years ago, the "Republican" tells of the second public meeting being held for the purpose of telling the people of Pottsville and vicinity of the proposed work of the Anti-Tuberculosis Society.

The Anti-Tuberculosis Society of Schuylkill County, a voluntary health organization for the purpose of preventing Tuberculosis and promoting better health in this county, was formed Feb. 28, 1908, by a committee of three physicians named by the Schuylkill County Medical Society whose idea it was to unite forces and fight tuberculosis as a unit.

Doctors G. R. S. Corson, L. T. Kennedy and C. D. Miller of Pottsville, with the assistance of Wallace Hatch, Executive Secretary of the Pennsylvania Tuberculosis Society, met and officially started the present Anti-Tuberculosis Society.

The society at the time of its inception was composed mostly of Pottsvillians. The officers elected were President Hon. Arthur L. Shay, Vice-President, W. L. Marquardt; Secretary, Dr. Corson; Treasurer, John W. Conrad; S. A. Thurlow was named temporary chairman. These were to serve for six months.

One month after its organization, the Society inaugurated a campaign to enlarge the Society and make it more of a county organization. Letters were sent out to fifty representative men of the county and forty-four accepted. Among the original members were: Prof. S. A. Thurlow,

Hon. Arthur L. Shay, Dr. G. R. S. Corson, John W. Conrad, Rev. W. H. Lindermuth, Rev John J. Eastman, Dr. L. T. Kennedy, Dr. C. D. Miller, Jacob Miehle, W. L. Marquardt, W. G. Wells, Prof. J. M. Schrope, Wm. Prifer, A. W. Schalck, W. A. Cather, W. K. Woodbury, Dr. J. J. McKinstry, G. W. F. Woodside, G. T. Burd, Harvey Scott, Dr. P. K. Filbert and E. D. Smith.

May 6th, 1908 the first public meeting of the society was held in the rooms of the Pottsville Y. M. C. A. The Constitutional committee composed of S. A. Thurlow, W. H. Lindermuth, J. H. Eastman, and Dr. Corson, submitted the Constitution and By-Laws. They were unanimously adopted. All resolved to pursue the cause of the society to "Prevent Tuberculosis."

Capt. E. D. Smith was elected the second president of the society on Sept. 8, 1908, and on Nov. 30th, 1908, the second public meeting was held in the Union Hall. Dr. Howard S. Anders of Phila., addressed this meeting, telling the members to continue their work for the sake of posterity.

The first Christmas Seal sale by the Society was held in 1909. A total of 150,000 seals was disposed of. The proceeds of the sale amounted to \$358.53 most of which came from Pottsville contributors. Only 65% of this remained in the county, the rest going to the state organization. At present, 85% remains with the county organization.

Steady progress was made and the business and personnel of the Society

grew. A nurse was hired by the month to visit cases reported. This nurse, Miss Mary Cosgrove was first hired in April of 1910. The work at this time was mostly in Pottsville, Mt. Carbon, Palo Alto and St. Clair.

The presidents of the Society have been A. L. Shay, Capt. Smith, Rev. Eastman in 1912, Rev. Lindermuth in 1915 and Rev. Diller, now in office.

The society has had only two treasurers—the original J. W. Conrad and the present treasurer, G. T. Burd.

In 1911, the name, "The Schuylkill County Branch of the Penna. Society for Prevention of Tuberculosis," was changed to the Anti-Tuberculosis Society of Schuylkill County. In this same year the first "Tuberculosis Sunday" was observed. Twenty five thousand and five hundred circulars were distributed in the churches.

The Post war years, those of the war and the years afterwards, witnessed the Anti-Tuberculosis Society grow into a county wide organization with representatives in every community.

In 1916, W. P. Smith, the present field secretary, took up his duties and the offices were moved from the office of Dr. Corson to the first private office of the Society at 207 N. Centre St., Pottsville, which they now occupy.

In 1918, the society rendered every possible assistance to check the influenza epidemic, aiding in establishing emergency hospitals and, they printed and circularized the region with 60,000 "Influenza Circulars" and 10,000 "After Influenza Circulars."

Also in 1918 the first anniversary of the "First Modern Health Crusade" was celebrated by an enrollment of 29,000 representing 104 communities of the county. No Christmas Seals were sold this year.

The possibilities of a county Tuberculosis hospital first crept into the minds of the Society in the year 1921. A vote was taken. An overwhelming majority voted in favor of it and a committee was appointed to investigate, but little has been accomplished.

The first Health Poster Contest was held in 1922 at the Pottsville Library where it still continues to be held.

The Junior Tuberculosis Society was formed in 1923. This was the first association of its kind in the United States. Miss Pearle McGready of McAdoo, a member of the board of directors then organized this association in conjunction with the Junior Society Milk Week Campaigns. The first milk lunches were served at Cass Township High School at Primrose, Schuylkill Haven High School and Lincoln School in Mahanoy Township. The association was also represented under Pennsylvania laws, during this year.

1924 to 1926 showed splendid progress. The Society developed means of reaching more of the individuals than the community. Tooth brushes—prophylactic seconds were given to school children; Chest and heart clinics were started, the open window campaigns were inaugurated; the first clinic was held in '26 at Pinegrove. Five county physicians were in attendance. The clinics were under the direction of Miss Riegle, the visiting nurse.

The banner year was 1928, when the Society whole heartedly threw all its energy into the nationwide campaign for the "early Diagnosis of Tuberculosis." This year also saw the introduction into the High Schools of Health Education. Health films were also shown at the County's Institute meeting.

So successful was the plan of work by the County Society in 1928 that it

was adopted by the National Society as the model "program of work" and given to every school in the nation.

In 1929, when the twenty first anniversary of the Society was celebrated, as part of the celebration, the State Conference of Tuberculosis Workers was held in this city.

The pre-school clinics were inaugurated in 1930. In 1931 the Early Diagnosis campaign was carried on with more vim. Boy Scouts distributed literature. Films and picture slides were shown in the theatres; doctors addressed Service Clubs, Clergymen gave addresses and had posters exhibited.

The actual testing for the tuberculosis germ amongst the students was introduced in 1932. At Pottsville, 170 pupils were given the test, 86, or 50.5 percent, showed positive reaction. At Ashland, 323 pupils were given the test; 151, or 46.7 percent, showed a positive reaction.

All parents were interviewed who had children showing positive reaction. They were advised to have the children's chests x-rayed. The Pottsville Hospital, Warne, Good Samaritan and the State Hospital at Ashland cooperated in this work by taking the x-rays.

The work of the Society can perhaps best be shown through the reports from the various activities. Fourteen Health Centres are conducted in the county, including the following towns, Pottsville, Pinegrove, Girardville, Ashland, McAdoo, Auburn, Frackville, Tremont, Tower City, Sch. Haven, Coaldale, Orwigsburg, Lost Creek and New Phila., which also includes Blythe Township. Miss Helen Stewart is the nurse in charge of this work. Children from infancy up to six years of age are examined by the cooperating local physicians, assisted by women of the community who volunteer their ser-

vices and by Miss Stewart. The defects are noted and referred to the family physician for correction.

Nutrition classes are conducted in towns of the county under the direction of Miss Elda McKee, nutritionist of the society. Proper food, growth, weight, rest, posture and prevention of disease are discussed and meetings for the parents of the boys and girls are held about once a month.

The pre-school clinics, the annual poster contest and the modern health crusade are other branches of the work which are all showing splendid results.

The officers are: Pres. Rev. H. W. Diller; First Vice-Pres., Dr. J. S. Carpenter, Jr.; Second Vice-Pres., Mrs. Louise Carter; Third Vice-Pres., Mrs. Ada Dechert; Secretary, Miss Anna Russel; Solicitor, J. L. N. Channel; Treasurer, G. T. Burd.

The Board of Directors are as follows: term expiring 1934, A. W. Zerbe, Tremont; Mary Kull, Ashland; Martha Lewis, Minersville; E. C. Malarkey, Girardville; Pearle McGready, McAdoo; E. H. Suender, Frackville; Linn B. Zulick, Orwigsburg; Dr. J. S. Carpenter, Jr., and Dr. J. L. Warne, Pottsville; Jos. F. Noonan, Mahanoy City.

Term expiring 1935: Mrs. P. W. Houck, Shenandoah; Mrs. Daniel Kaercher, A. W. Sheaffer, E. S. Fernsler, T. R. Daddow, Pottsville; C. E. Christ, Tamaqua; Mrs. Ira Frankfield, Tower City; Jos. Wassel, Shenandoah; Dr. F. J. Walter, Pinegrove; E. R. Scherr, St. Clair.

Term expiring 1936: Frank L. Brown, Auburn; Mrs. Ada Dechert, Sch. Haven; J. L. N. Channel, H. R. Foster, Edith Miehle, Rev. E. W. Weber, Rev. H. W. Diller, Mrs. Louise Carter, Anna Russel, Dr. H. H. Stewart and G. T. Burd, Pottsville.

King's Daughters Were Incorporated in 1924

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* December 1, 1933)

Although the King's Daughters had been organized many years before this time and had been active in the work of their organization, it was not until Dec. 1, 1924 that it was decided to incorporate the Service Circle.

The Service Circle of the King's Daughters were organized in Pottsville in the Spring of 1887 and was the first branch started after the "Mother" Circle was founded.

This was how the Circle came into being. On January 13, 1886, Mrs. Margaret Bottome and nine women friends met in New York City and organized a society which they termed "The King's Daughters" for the purpose of the development of spiritual life and stimulation of Christian activities.

Mrs. Bottome's son, who was an Episcopalian clergyman, had previously started in his church an organization which he called "Daughters of the King" and these ten women simply reversed the order of this title for their society's name and made it undenominational.

In 1888, it was incorporated as "The King's Daughters" and in 1891 as "The International Order of the King's Daughters and Sons," which now has branches in almost every country in the world. Latest reports give 4509 members in 136 Circles in Pennsylvania alone.

The badge of membership is a silver Maltese cross, worn with or without a purple ribbon, bearing the initials "I. H. N." the abbreviation for "In His Name," on the face and

the word "Seal" and "1886" on the reverse side. The organization's motto is: "Look up, not down; look out, not in; look forward, not back; lend a hand."

The Pottsville Service Circle of the King's Daughters was organized by four young girls just entering their 'teens—Mary Bretz, Margaret Skeen, Carrie Freck and Lulu Matz—with Miss Tillie Severn as their leader, in the spring of 1887. Although it was the first branch formed, it did not then join the parent organization on account of limited funds but became affiliated with the former later.

The membership was subsequently increased to ten and later to 20, as it is at present. This refers to active members, but there are a large number of "honorary" members in addition. Miss Severn was in time succeeded by Mrs. Geo. M. Bretz and others as leaders of the young people who then composed this Circle. The custom of having an older person as leader was abandoned later.

In course of time, it was decided to incorporate the Service Circle, and this was done on December 1, 1924, with the following Charter members: Dorothy H. Muehlhof, Carrie J. Rigg, Bertha A. Filbert, Mabel K. Schum, Alma M. Channel, Mary Alice Fox, Clara F. Potts, Helen E. Krebs, Corneene A. Skeen, Elsie K. Schneider, Anna M. Morris, Helen J. Sheets, Dorothy K. Critz, Charlotte Hart, Louise S. Doyle, Lillian S. Kramer, Amy E. Stephens, Sarah Bowen, Main D. Stichter and Marcia A. Fox.

The present officers are: President, Miss Helen Krebs; Vice-Pres., Miss

Carrie J. Riggs; Secy., Mrs. (L. K.) Bessie Stoner; Treas., Miss Bertha Filbert; Corresponding Secy., Mrs. (J. G.) Lillian Kramer. The Visiting Nurse is Mrs. J. G. Klenk. In addition to the officers and the nurse, the members are: Mrs. (J. L. N.) Alma Channel; Mrs. (W. F.) Louise Doyle; Mrs. (Chas.) Mabel Schum, Mrs. (Theo. D.) Elsie K. Schneider, Mrs. (Chas E.) Coreene A. Skeen, Mrs. (E. S.) Helen Sheets, Miss Sarah Bowen, Miss Dorothy Critz, Miss Mary A. Fox, Miss Jennie Hause, Miss Charlotte Hart, Miss Anna Morris, Miss Clara Potts, Miss Amy Stephens and Miss Main Stichter.

The Service Circle has always cooperated with all local welfare organizations, adapting its work to individual needs and conditions. For many years, they provided some of their beneficiaries with food and milk, others with shoes and clothing, others with medicine or other articles needed by those who were ill. They frequently provided baby outfits and lent wheel chairs and collected furniture, bedding, stoves, etc. for those who were unable to provide these things for themselves. The funds needed to support the work were provided through membership dues and voluntary annual contributions from friends, supplemented during the last year by part of the local Emergency Relief Fund, donated by the general public.

During the last year that the Circle carried on this work, a total of \$4,508.61 was expended for the various forms of Circle activities including the giving out of 1,764 quarts of milk, about 1,500 pairs of shoes, 60 good sized food orders and Christmas baskets, less food being given that year because of the organized work of the Family Relief Service in that line.

At the present time, since the State has taken over the relief work,

the King's Daughters have confined their work chiefly to their Visiting Nurse service and Traveler's Aid Cases, both of which keep them very busy.

The Circle supports a Visiting Nurse service which is free to those who cannot pay but for those who can, a charge is made of whatever the patient can afford, which helps to defray part of the expense in continuing this service. The nurse also has assisted in Crippled Children's Clinics and Well Babies' Clinics at various times. It is frequently necessary for the organization to supply medicine for those who are ill and cannot afford to pay for it.

The King's Daughters also cooperate with the Travelers' Aid Society locally. When advised that help is needed, some of the members meet at the railroad stations, or wherever desired, travelers who come here as strangers, and give any aid needed during their temporary stay in our midst.

Members of the King's Daughters have for a number of years, enjoyed distributing the candy and oranges, dolls and toys provided by others for poor children in connection with local Community Tree Christmas celebrations.

This Circle also assists in the maintenance of the state organization's Home for the Aged, established in 1926 at Narbeth, Pa., with a capacity of twelve inmates and Staff and also in the upkeep of the Vacation House for working girls, established in 1912 at Valley Forge, with a capacity of 275 for the season, the number entertained at one time averaging 32 to 36.

Many other Circles connected with the International Order of the King's Daughters and Sons support hospitals and other welfare institutions to contribute largely towards their maintenance.

Pottsville Had State League Baseball Team

By PERCY L. KNOWLTON

Who Served As Official Scorer For The Pottsville Baseball Team,
Represented In The Pennsylvania And Atlantic League

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* December 2-3-4, 1933)

"Frank Lang, of Pottsville, the brilliant short stop of the Jersey City baseball club, is spoken of as the man likely to take the place of Ward, of the New Yorks, who had been sold to Washington for \$12,000."

This reference to Frank Lang, of Pottsville, a member of one of the finest baseball clubs that Pottsville has ever had, is taken from "The Republican" of 1888.

Just as strange as the description of cricket matches, played in the misty past, even enthusiastic reference to remarkable meetings before the wales and wickets, harking back to the Civil War and the days antedating that strife, have little interest to present generations, so there are few also, who today know a great deal about the birth of baseball, now the great national pastime, paramount to football, the classic diversion of the fall season. Perhaps the lesser interest is due to the fact that so few football contests are played, in contrast to the months that baseball holds the boards and, naturally, attracts the great attention which is given it.

The game of "rounders," immediate predecessor of baseball, was an innovation from the staid, dignified cricket amusement and, unless the sport had developed into something more than a general running about the bases and scoring multiple runs, similar to the record of tallies characteristic of cricket, the new sport

would have soon gone under. In general, the first baseball partook of the nature of indoor or gymnasium baseball, which is now played on many recreation floors, usually beneath a roof.

What saved the new game, and developed it into the most remarkable sport of the age, was evolving the curved pitched ball. Up to that time the batsman was not intended to be fooled by the pitcher. He just slammed away, and the fielders were kept tired chasing the horsehide.

Rumors of pitchers being able to curve a baseball reached Pottsville in rather a hazy form. It seemed a hoax until the late Dr. James S. Carpenter, father of Dr. J. Stratton Carpenter, present well known practitioner in the community, and the late Attorney Louis B. Walker, son of Hon. Thomas H. Walker, of the Schuylkill County Common Pleas Bench, brought the art back from their respective college ball fields, and gave it a trying out.

It was, at first, hard to find anybody hereabouts who knew how to receive such a ball. In those days, before catchers were provided with masks and protectors, it was considered dangerous to stand so close back of the plate, the player being menaced by the batter, as well as by the pitcher because of the lack of control to, at all times, pitch the designed curve.

But such a catcher was found in Johnny Kane, of Mt. Carbon. He

studied the delivery of the new curved ball and, gradually, got acquainted with its possibilities to fool the batter. This was the first deliberate attempt to make it a hardship for the batter to hit the ball at all. There were many men struck out, and many were also wary about standing up to the plate in danger of being struck by one of these wizard pitched balls.

When the batter mastered the fear that the ball, coming straight for him, might not actually hit him, but would curve just in time to break across the plate, then he could wait for a good, straight one, or out-guess the pitcher, which is much what he does when at bat today.

So well did these pitchers and their catchers master the use of the curved ball that they had players for miles around, at their mercy until the innovation became generally known on local baseball fields. After that, the evolution of baseball was rapid. Pottsville had some great teams, as did other towns in Lower Schuylkill County.

Old time fans now and then refer to some great amateur baseball contest for "blood," played in this section, but there seems little actual identity given any of the early teams, notwithstanding the oft-repeated claims, "dem was de happy days," "dem was de real teams," when men were men and baseball was baseball, until the days when the "Ivy Leaf" aggregation, the players of which were principally from the East Side, some of them living over the line in Mechanicsville, gained prestige.

This was purely an amateur aggregation, which with "Paddy" Fox and "Pete" Cavanaugh as the battery, gained victory after victory over the fastest teams of Pottsville, and also of many towns in Schuylkill County, even over the border, Lansford be-

ing among the stronger of their opponents.

In Pottsville, another strong amateur team was developed under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association. Oscar, best known as "Mox" Hill, now engaged in the lumber business at Schuylkill Haven, was the remarkable hurler, and Harry Dewald, brother of Chief of Police Fred M. Dewald, was his catcher. This was a powerful battery. Harry Womelsdorf, now of Cartersville, Ga., and other local players of repute were members of the fast aggregation.

But the players of both of these teams got their inspiration from organized ball which was played in Pottsville for a few years before they became the power on the diamond which they proved in later years.

The "Anthracites," of the American Association, were the proud boast of Schuylkill County fans. This aggregation made a fine showing against such teams as Philadelphia, Chicago, St. Louis, Boston, Louisville and representatives of all the other big baseball centers, which came here on their itinerary in regular succession. Then the "Anthracites" would play in those cities in carrying out the return circuit schedule.

Certain it was that Pottsville had the smallest population of any of the towns embraced by the association jurisdiction, all of which were big cities, while Pottsville was little more than a good-sized borough. But, while the proper financial backing could be given the town, the "Anthracites" advertised the Schuylkill county seat over most of the United States.

Frequent games were played between the Reading Actives and the Camden Merits, between whom and the Anthracites there was developed keen rivalry. One of these games,

played at Agricultural Park, proved the longest on record in the county.

It was when Barney McLaughlin, "dead broke," came riding into Pottsville on a coal train, and got off looking like a tramp, black and dirty, that the stock of the "Anthracites" went sky high. The team had been good up to that time, but was a little weak in the pitching department. An outstanding pitcher was needed.

Barney attracted little attention when he came up town from the Union St. depot. He was tired and hungry and obsessed with the "blues," when, somehow, the rumor got about that he was a pitcher with possibilities. Though the officials of the team, upon recommendation of a local fan, who knew that McLaughlin was a "good un," provided him with a big meal, they followed to the baseball field fearful, judging from the man's slouchy appearance that he was a hoax. He was told to give the "works," and soon showed that he had the "makin's."

After one tour of the circuit, McLaughlin was heralded through baseball circles all over the land, as a marvel, and victories came fast to the standard of the Pottsville team. The pitcher was a "find," and just what was needed.

On that team played "Snapper" Lang, brother-in-law of William A. Womer, of this city, at short stop, who, in later years, went to Newark, N. J., and played with other fast baseball aggregations.

But the financial pace was too much for Pottsville staying long in such fast company as the American Association, which was the predecessor of the National League, the American League, of course, being the latest big step in the direction of organized baseball. Finally came the collapse, after people had been entertained for some years with or-

ganized baseball, first at Agricultural Park, and then at Twelfth and Russell Sts., where an up-to-date park was provided for the latter days of the "Anthracites." This park was laid out upon part of the site of the former ice skating rink, which was conducted where the Tilt Silk Mill is now located.

Then it was that strong rivalry brought together the "Ivy Leaf" and Y. M. C. A. teams in a series of games, with the honors about even. Fox used a wonderful "drop curve" ball, which was, perhaps, the most deceptive that was ever hurled over a plate on any diamond in this section of the state. His able opponent, "Mox" Hill, had a varied assortment of curves and a great, fast, straight one, driven by a pitching arm of seemingly unlimited power.

When these teams had "sawed off" several thrilling ties, it seemed that things were about ready again for baseball. This time Pottsville did not go in so high for organized baseball and, in 1894, entered a team in the Pennsylvania State League. The expense of its maintenance was modest compared with the efforts that were made to finance membership in the national baseball organization.

This proved the greatest baseball season that Pottsville ever had, and will likely ever see in the future. An association of representative people, all ardent lovers of the national game, was formed and, throughout that summer, everybody plugged hard for the success of the town's representative team. The games were all well attended and, though, at times, wierd financing was required, the season was finished, a little ahead of all expenses.

It was a year when there were two seasons. Harrisburg proved an easy winner of the first season. Pottsville was the champion of the

second season, and also won the "saw-off" which made them baseball champions of the Pennsylvania State League. This was the first and last championship which a Pottsville team ever won on a baseball diamond, although some splendid games were played on local diamonds in after years. Dolan's Park was used by the teams of 1894 and those for several seasons afterward.

On the championship team were such mighty players as: Andy Fuller, Jack Tighe, Charlie Nyce, Ben Ellis, "Mox" Hill, Paddy Fox, Tom Golden, now a hotel keeper of this city; "Doc" Potts, "Kid" Diggins, "Red" Hughes, "Speedy" Wilson and other celebrities, all of them bulwarks of strength in landing the coveted State League pennant. A special staff was provided for it in left field, in line back of third base.

It was a proud moment for players and fans, when, as the Third Brigade Band played the "Star Spangled Banner," the pennant, which was brought from Philadelphia to Pottsville by Frank Hough and Harry Dittleboch, sporting writers of the Quaker City, was run up to the top of the staff. It floated there for several seasons afterward, reminding the local fans and all visitors of the mighty prowess of the 1894 aggregation.

In later years, after the formation of the Atlantic League and the traction officials laid out a large baseball field at Tumbling Run, the local team accomplished what was regarded as a miracle in baseball. It was a game played late in the summer, after the Schuylkill County players, who were identified with the big leagues, were home, at the close of the season, when Christy Matthewson brought here, on a "barnstorming" trip, his New York National League Champions and pitted them against a great team

which Pottsville placed in the field. The mighty Pitcher Ames occupied the mound for the big leaguers, expecting to have an easy thing of it.

The game was played in 1909, but it was not won by the Giants. Ames could not land it. Pottsville got away with the contest by a score of 2 to 1. Jake Daubert played with Pottsville. He, afterward, became a fixture at first base for the Brooklyn Nationals. Jack Picus, of Mt. Hope, still in big league company, who plays under the name of "Quinn," was one of the local pitchers, as was also Bill Matthews, of East Mt. Carbon. Davy Lloyd, "Bug" Eustace, and "Duck" Mehling were on the team. "Red" Smith caught and Gus F. Swaving did the umpiring. Of these players, Picus, Matthews, Lloyd, Mehling and Swaving still make their homes in Pottsville and vicinity.

When, last fall, there was a benefit game played for Mehling, in which "old-timers" played the Mechanicsville modern team, at the Sports Center, just west of the Silk Mill, Matthews, Lloyd, Mehling and Tommy Golden were on the field. With the old-time aggregation were also Harry C. Hoffman and Percy L. Knowlton, both scorekeepers for years, the latter being the official scorer of the Pennsylvania State League when Pottsville won the pennant, and also of the Atlantic League of later years.

In 1902, Pottsville had a strong independent ball team, with Jack Bagley, Paddy Heffner, "Red" Owens, "Bug" Eustace, Jack Titus, later an outfielder of the Philadelphia National League; Lloyd, Smith and Pitchers Frank MacHale and Bill Evans, the latter now being a chauffeur living at Buck Run, playing with it. This was organized baseball timber. In all probability, had Pottsville played in a state league,

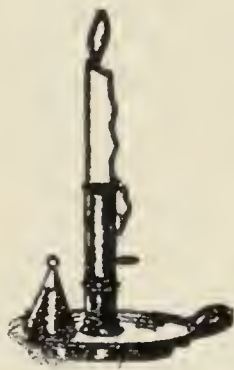
during that year, there would have been an excellent chance for winning another pennant.

Pottsville, during the latter part of the summer, started on a long trip down the state, playing a number of strong aggregations enroute. They landed at Wilmington, Del., after the latter had carried off 21 straight games. The up-state aggregation played two games there, and Bill Evans scored a shut-out in each against the Delaware team after fast contests. These defeats came barely in time to prevent the Wilmington aggregation from making the straight record, for which the business men of the city were to award them, with the title of champions, a roast turkey banquet. The Wilmington players were very much disappointed in their failure, when top success seemed assured. However, the banquet was held, and the Pottsville players were feted, although the Wilmington aggregation got a whole lot of credit, too.

Speaking of fast baseball players developed in other parts of the

county, Mike Doolin, of Mahanoy Plane, was for a number of seasons the star shortstop of the Philadelphia National League team. He first played in fast company with Pottsville. Tommy Jones, of Locust Dale, who did not start playing organized baseball until he was well advanced in the 40's, caught and developed Jack Stivetts, of Ashland, who became the crack pitcher of the Boston National League team, pitching them into two championships. Tommy Tucker was the comedian player with the Boston champions in those days. Jones played on two big league teams, St. Louis and Detroit.

Paddy Fox, of the Pottsville 1894 team, during the time that the Providence champions of the Eastern League, were "barnstorming" the Anthracite region, at Dolan's Park, twice in one day, shut them out. On the old Y. M. C. A. team, "Deacon" Jones, of St. Clair, first baseman, was another celebrity of amateur baseball. He is, at present, holding a professorship in a western college.



Lions Club Performs Much Real Service

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* December 4, 1933)

The Lions Club now holds its meetings each Monday, and it is therefore appropriate that we shall consider the history of the Pottsville Club on this day.

On the evening of Tuesday, July 17, 1923, the organization meeting of the new Den of the International Organization of Lions Clubs was held at the Pottsville Club. Twenty-one Lions from Reading were present to aid in the work of organizing.

The officers were elected as follows: Pierce Mortimer, president; Alfred Day, secretary; George Kaercher, treasurer; J. Parke Hood, lion tamer, and Edgar Brown, tail twister; J. Robert Bazley, first vice-president; N. Grier Park, second vice-president; Thomas Beddall, third vice-president. Five were elected on the Board of Directors, as follows: W. H. McQuail, Jr., Clinton Sheaffer, Dr. Carl Espy, Dr. J. S. Carpenter and Walter Bollinger.

On October 10th, a dance and banquet were held, at which the district governor presented the charter to the club.

The meeting day was set for Tuesday of each week at the Pottsville Club. The organization was to be known as the Pottsville Lions Club, and was to be composed of men representing business and professional interests of Pottsville. Their aim was to render service to those less fortunate.

The club started with approximately 25 members but, by the time

of the second anniversary, the roster was then close to 40.

Much social life has been enjoyed during the years of existence of the club. There have been stag affairs and Ladies' Nights, some held in this city and some at near by resorts. Picnics are great favorites with the members. Each year they have several of them. Some are for club members only and others for their friends.

The Lions are also active in various phases of the city's and county's activities. They were instrumental in starting the annual Schuylkill County Track Meet, and in supporting the movement for a Y. W. C. A. in this city. They adopted a Boy Scout Troop, and sponsored it. Several firms were induced to come here upon the advice and request of the club.

In November, 1927, the Lions Club decided to change their meeting place. They also changed their meeting day from Tuesday to Monday. Starting with the first Monday in November, they met at the Necho Allen Hotel. However, for months afterwards, the directors meetings of the club were held at the Pottsville Club.

The club in its history has had three secretaries and many presidents elected annually. The secretaries were Alfred Day, who was succeeded by Albert Mayberry, of Schuylkill Haven, who later became president and whose duties then were accepted by Dr. E. S. Filbert, the present secretary. George H. Kaercher, who

still is the treasurer, was the original treasurer.

The club held its first birthday party five years after its inception. The affair was held, however, just one month after the date the club was officially five years old, on October 24, 1928, in the ballroom of the Necho Allen Hotel. Guests from various parts of the state were present, including several state and national officers of the Lions International. The ladies were also in attendance at the birthday dinner, which was followed by dancing.

When the club was instituted, they adopted as their chief outside work, their contribution to the charity that was being done in the county by other organizations—the work of caring for the blind. Their first efforts were county-wide in scope. For some time they saw that those of the county who needed glasses and were unable to pay for them, received attention.

As time went on, the requests for glasses were many. Finally the club restricted their work to children, and later was forced to confine it to the children of Pottsville only. At the present time, they are only able to care for the unfortunates of this city, but by no means are they neglecting the others. When any cases from outside of the city are referred to them, they get a society in the town from which the request came to secure the glasses.

Each year the club's eye specialist and chairman of the blind committee, Dr. Carl Espy, attends to approximately 25 children. Since the institution of the practice, several hundred children and adults have been provided with glasses.

Several years ago, the club induced a noted eye specialist from the Overbrook Institution for the Blind, to visit this county and carry on a survey. This was done and splendid

results were obtained. Many blind or nearly blind persons of the county were aided by being sent to the Overbrook Institution and given great assistance there.

The club also sponsored a visit of Miss Helen Keller, internationally known blind lecturer. Miss Keller's talk here in the Methodist Church proved to be of great benefit.

The major interests of Lion International are the blind and tubercular. Although the local club has been doing excellent work for the blind, the tubercular activity is of such recent date that nothing definite can yet be reported on this. One of their chief interests has been the fathering of Boy Scout Troop No. 3. For the recent Father and Son banquet of the Scouts, the Lions Club members raised sufficient funds to send to the banquet deserving boys, who were not financially able to go. The club also contributed \$5 toward the establishment of the James B. Neale Scout Troop in the Heckschersville Valley.

Last Spring they gave their support to the effort which was made by the people of the Anthracite region to prohibit the importing of Russian coal. They also supported the city in its endeavor to have the Postoffice built on N. Centre St. They joined with the other service clubs in a charity bridge, through which \$350 was realized for the Red Cross.

One method of raising funds for their work among the blind has been to collect 10 cents at each meeting from those who fail to wear their Lion button. This money is placed in a special fund to help pay for the glasses.

The officers at present are as follows: President, Frederick Yuengling; first vice-president, George Roos; second vice-president, Dr. William Dzurek; third vice-president,

Monroe Myers; treasurer, George Kaercher; lion tamer, Monroe Myers, and tail twister, Lorenz Miller.

The directors are: Charles Klingler, Earl Howells, A. J. Knauss and John Brady.

The members are as follows: David Atkins, Lee Berger, John Brady, Charles Dietz, Dr. Wm. Dzurek, Dr.

C. W. Espy, Dr. E. S. Filbert, Dr. W. R. Glenney, Earl Howells, Lee Hummel, George Kaercher, Charles Klingler, Dr. A. J. Knauss, Claude A. Lord, Jack Otter, Albert Mayberry, Joseph Middour, Lawrence Miller, Thomas Monahan, Al Morgan, Monroe Myers, Clyde Payne, George Roos, Harold Sanner, Clinton Sheaffer, Dr. E. V. Tolan, Frederick Yuengling.



Pottsville Saloons of Days of Yore

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* December 5-6, 1933)

Although return of the privilege to sell beer throughout the nation did not restore the old time saloon, nevertheless the revival of the business after its suspension for many years by the Volstead Act, has aroused more than ordinary interest in the places where the amber fluid was dispensed over the bar or served about barroom tables, in back room booths, and also in especially prepared quarters for the de luxe trade, upstairs.

Drinking places in Pottsville and other sections of the county were legion from a period antedating the Civil War up to the time that the saloon was placed in the discard upon the enforcement of the prohibition acts following the long regime of the Brooks High License Act and the laws under which the saloon business was carried on, prior to that enactment which was regarded as the most liberal of all restrictions on the sale of rum and booze, generally.

In the old days, before the dawn of the radio, moving pictures, electricity and other of the inventions which later served to wean many away from the barroom and the historic resorts with swinging doors, there were comparatively few points to congregate for discussion of business enterprises, social functions and the like. Naturally, these places, where the thirsty could get a swig or two of beer and stronger drink if they desired it, became a popular rendezvous because they were commonly frequented by people of all classes, young and old, rich and poor. For years, barrooms were reg-

ularly used as polling places. Slates were framed and political meetings were held in them.

Few people, especially those of the present generation, remember a great deal about the old time saloon where several kinds of sandwiches, many varieties of cold lunches and some types of soups and hot provender, were obtained free of charge, with a big schooner of beer for the cost of only a nickel. The saloons of Pottsville and Schuylkill County were notorious throughout the state. Our county had the reputation of having more drinking places to the square foot than any other section of the Commonwealth.

Even among the older residents there are not many people today who remember the saloon which was conducted upon the site of the First Baptist Church, on the south side of Mahantongo St., west of Seventh. On the east side of Seventh Street, many years ago about 100 feet from Mahantongo St., there was a small brewery.

This industry was started by several Germans, from the Fatherland. The brewery was in the old stone building, now used as part of the convent of St. Patrick's parish. On account of the substantial manner in which the old building was constructed, it was not razed to give place to one of newer construction such as was done for the facade of the building nearest Mahantongo St., and that of the handsome Pottsville Catholic High School to the rear.

According to legend, Seventh Street in Pottsville's primitive days did not

have its present high status but was low on a level with Mahantongo St. When the Germans ran their brewery with the retail saloon, approach was made to the old stone house through an archway. In later years, F. D. Yuengling bought out the Germans and gave them positions in his brewery. Then the saloon, on the church site, was abandoned as was also the brewery and the old stone house, the arched entrance being walled up by masons. This is plainly discernible today to those who look for it as they pass the point in question. Of course, the saloon had disappeared long before the Baptists acquired the site upon which they erected their church.

The "Pig and Whistle" was another drinking place conducted so many years ago that few among the oldest residents have any recollection of it. The saloon was directly upon the present site of the "Republican" office building. It had disappeared, however, before the newspaper building was thought of. A man named St. Clair was one of its early proprietors.

Interest centers about the saloon that was kept by Anton J. Redelberger, at the northeast corner of Centre and Union Streets because its owner lived to the age of 103 years. He was still alive and active and rode in the parades which featured the celebration of Old Home Week held in Pottsville.

Ed. Schilling had a liquor store on S. Centre St., next to the Pottsville Water Co.'s offices, just above the corner of Union Street. Jos. H. Nichter was also in business in the same block. Joseph Moses ran a saloon beneath the site of the present Walgreen's drug store, southeast corner Centre and Norwegian Sts. This was a brick building which for many years was owned by Frank Hause, a First Defender and Civil

War veteran, who on the street level conducted a cigar store and manufactured cigars. The upper stories were used for a tobacco warehouse and for office purposes.

The basement of the old Hause building was first occupied by Moses' "Globe" saloon. Then it was used at various times for short intervals by transients. William and Frank Burkhart each conducted pool rooms. In more recent years, the Hause building, which passed into the hands of Eli Basler, was razed and then the Caster building was erected.

Herman Marsdorf ran a restaurant and saloon beneath the old Mountain City building. This, in recent years, was razed to give place to the Safe Deposit Bank building on the southwest corner of Centre and Norwegian Sts. Marsdorf's place was known as "The Varieties." It derived its name from the fact that frequent entertainments were given there by variety performers of the type best known today as vaudeville artists.

"Billy" Soell had a saloon in the old Boehmer property on N. Centre St. The big green parrot, swinging in its cage, in the barroom, for years shrieked anathemas and profanity, day and night. Its vocabulary was most remarkable for a bird, and vied with the most notorious of human trouble-makers in the town. The parrot was brought here and given to Soell by Captain Crawford F. Glover, Scotch commander of a sailing vessel, who, after he retired from the sea, kept a cigar store in the Baird building, at the corner of Second and Market Sts., now known as the Hasler building. The precocious bird lived to a good old age.

Soell's saloon, in later years, passed into the hands of William Leifeld, Mrs. O'Neill and "Tommy" Golden, all of whom continued the saloon business there. Up to a short time ago, it was occupied by the Coney

Island restaurant, and now is the Jaffe Paint Shop.

Pat Tray had a place on Centre St. on the west side, just above Minersville St., near where George Schimpf conducted a tin and stove store for many years. It was in the same block where the "Palace Diner" is now located. Henry Reiger had a tavern on the west side of Centre St., south of where the Eagle Hotel is now located.

Joe Woll ran the City Hotel, at the northeast corner of Centre and Minersville Sts. Later it was improved and became the Woll Hotel. During the regime of the latter it was the rendezvous for many labor and political gatherings, sessions of the Schuylkill County Bovine Association, etc. After the hotel was rebuilt it was run for years by the Cominetti Bros., who dubbed it the Venice Hotel. During recent years, beer has been sold there, but on a much lesser scale than in the years of its prosperity.

Augustus Ruff had a whiskey wholesale place of business on Railroad St., the third door above Market. In this same block, August Muhl conducted a similar line of business. But a few doors to the north was the old Maxwell House. This was conducted by Billy Maxwell.

Ben Christian had a saloon two doors above Ruff's. The Philadelphia House was run at the corner of Railroad and Race Sts. for a number of years. In later years, John Sirocco ran the place for some years, and then retired. His son-in-law, Joseph Tomaino, conducted the saloon until it was closed.

There was a saloon, at the Blue Tavern, on East Norwegian St., and a brewery connected with it. At the southwest corner of Norwegian and Railroad Sts., where the William Penn Hotel now stands, there was a flour mill and a profitable business

was done for a number of years. After it was abandoned, it became the office and warehouse of the Nusbbaum wholesale grocery interests. Later Frank Phillips, a horseman, who kept stables of fast racing horses, ran a saloon in the recon-verted property. W. W. Lewis also had a saloon there as did Fred. Coleman, who had a reputation as being one of Pennsylvania's most expert wingshots.

Joseph Wadlinger ran the De Court Hotel, at the northwestern corner of Third and Laurel Sts., for many years. He was a brother of the late Judge George J. Wadlinger, formerly of Minersville. In later years, Joseph Clay, Sr., carried on a saloon business and also continued the hotel. With the approach of the Volstead days the building was remodeled by its owner, the late Wm. B. Shugars, Sr., for stores and apartments.

Mrs. Fred Hoehn had a beer saloon on Laurel St., located between Fourth and Fifth Sts. She was the wife of Fred Hoehn, who was a well known coal hauler and was dubbed, by his wide acquaintanceship among Pennsylvania Germans as "Der Kohler Fritz." Mrs. Hoehn was the mother of George ("Butch") Hoehn, who possessed a sonorous bass voice, having a richness and depth seldom to be found anywhere in the state.

John Scheerer ran a saloon at Seventh and Minersville Sts., for several decades. When he retired it was occupied by Peter Hoak. The latter also conducted a saloon at 23rd and Market Streets. When burglars broke into his barroom one night for the purpose of robbery, he shot and killed one of them, the others taking to their heels. After that Hoak yearned to get away from the isolated business place and gladly hailed the opportunity of getting possession of the old Scheerer stand.

Mrs. Knecht had a place, in the first house around the corner of Coal, just off Mauch Chunk St. Mrs. Fuchs ran a saloon on North Centre Street near the gas house. John, known as "Jumbo" Trout, a prominent fireman, a member of the American Hose Co., and a beer wagon driver, a giant who stood six feet, six inches in his stockings, and weighed nearly 400 pounds, possessing prodigious strength, for some time had a saloon on North Centre St., near Henry Somer's barbershop, north of Minersville St. Then he located on the north side of Market in the 200 block where his death occurred. Afterward Mrs. Trout, his widow, conducted the Fourth Ward Hotel, at Seventh and Market Streets, and then continued the business on South Coal Street, between Washington and Mauch Chunk Sts.

Jacob Dimmerling, a retired engineer, who ran a train on the People's Railway between Pottsville and Minersville for more than a generation, conducted a hotel at 18th and Market Streets. It was known in its earlier days as "Musical Hall." Later it was called Dimmerling's Hall, after its founder. After his death, his son, George Dimmerling, conducted it as did other members of the family. At intervals, other proprietors conducted it, but, eventually it reverted to the Dimmerling family.

Dimmerling's Hall underwent extensive improvements a few years ago and was converted into the first classy cabaret in Schuylkill County. Thousands of dollars were invested in the changes wrought. For a while it was popular but the "overhead," associated with such a costly establishment, was too high and eventually it failed and those who invested in it lost a small fortune.

John E. Bettler, for years, conducted "The Klondike," at 20th and Mahantongo Streets, succeeding Alois

Elison who ran a less pretentious place from the early days of Yorkville as a borough. Bettler, who was best known under the sobriquet of "Pat," was a son-in-law of Elison. At 16th and Market Sts., Mrs. Buehler conducted the "Yorkville Hotel" for a long time. The Lotz saloon was also located in the same block. It is still being run by a member of the family and is rated as the oldest continuous hotel in the Yorkville section or seventh ward of Pottsville. One of the unique saloon resorts was "The Soldiers' Home," on Arch Street. John Henneberger and Mike Boehmer conducted it. The sign, in front of the place, carried the portrait of a soldier in full fighting togs.

When the nation went dry in 1915, many saloons in the seven wards of the city, went under the ban. In the first ward, there were then about twenty saloons. W. W. Brown was located at 310-312 N. Centre St. (now the Boltz Department Store); Fred (Ted) Bushar ran a place at 212 N. Centre (now the Federal Bakery); Richard E., better known as "Red Dick," Coogan was at 4 N. Centre, (on the site of the present Alco Restaurant); Patrick J. Dormer was in business, corner of Railroad and Arch Sts.; J. H. Deisher was at 116 E. Norwegian St.; Kate Dinger, at 400 N. Centre, (later the Venice); Jos. Frakwiak, at 406 N. Centre St., (now Freedline's); Louis Thompson, at 320-322 N. Centre, (now Kauffman's store) and Matthias F., better known as "Matty" Fox, ran the "Sterling House," corner of Railroad and East Market Sts.

Enos F. Glaser was located at 444 E. Nor. St. at the former stand of John Sturn; Patrick J. Hollahan's place of business was at 116 N. Centre St.; Robert C. Howell was at 114 E. Norwegian St., having formerly conducted a saloon at the corner

of Second and Market Sts., later Greenhalgh's; Patrick J. Joyce, located at the corner of E. Norwegian St. and Logan Alley, called his place "Pat's Corner." This stand was previously occupied by Daniel Coleman, who saw service in the Regular Army and rose to be national commander of the organization known as the United States Regular Army and Navy veterans.

Joseph Kolvievajtus had a saloon at 216 N. Centre (now Schainuck's Clothing Store). Frederick Portz dispensed drinks at 122 N. Centre St., the old "Lafayette House," one of the most popular resorts in Pottsville. Portz participated in Democratic politics, a genial and witty Pennsylvania German, who could take a joke and did take many which were played on him. His name is used, too, as being the author of many witticisms in order to get over a witty saying. He was the father of City Controller Harry K. Portz. George Fox, who succeeded the stand still conducts it. Sterling's barber shop for years a familiar landmark, was in between the Portz place and Schramm's more pretentious saloon and eating place.

Max Rehman, another popular German, for many years ran a saloon at 476 N. Centre St.; Francis X. Schramm, whose big place was located at 118 N. Centre St., had a reputation for Swiss and Limburger cheese sandwiches throughout the community. Large numbers of patrons patronized it merely for the good glass of beer they were served and the variety and fine type of cheese and other cold lunches which could be had there. In later years, it passed into the hands of Eli Basler, Fred Smedley and Chas. Deeney, respectively, all of whom were able to hold a wide clientele, because of the reputation which was made by the founder of the place. John Sir-

occo's old stand, run by his son-in-law, was then located at the corner of Race and Railroad Sts. and Willett Boyer conducted, until Volstead closing days, the old Ruff stand at 105 Railroad St. In the same ward was located Geo. W. Jungkurth's wholesale liquor store at 474 N. Centre St. (now the Onyx Blouse Co.).

In business in the second ward in 1915, we find George DeNapoli, at 320-322 S. Centre St., this being in the old Car cottage, where for a time, Imschweiler's confectionery business was located before it moved up to N. Centre St., being succeeded by the Nabholz ice cream stand where the same type of business was run. A. J. Devitt who ran "Pat's Corner" after the death of Patrick Joyce, was at 119 E. Norwegian St.; Thos. W. Jones' saloon was at 419 S. Coal St.; G. E. Kline's stand was at 18 S. Coal; the place of business of Margaret Larkin was at 453 E. Norwegian St. and Joseph H. Nichter's wholesale and retail business was under one roof at 214-216 S. Centre St.

Harry O'Neill's saloon was at 6 S. Centre St.; Mrs. Kate Rausch, the widow of the popular Adam Rausch, was conducting a saloon at 106 S. Centre St.; and John L. Rehrig was at 222 S. Centre St. In addition to handling other drinks, Mr. Rehrig gained popularity in the use of syrup beverages putting out a lemonola of his own manufacture, which added much to his reputation. Mrs. Mary A. Trout, widow of "Jumbo" Trout, was in business at 409 S. Coal St.; Earl E. Witman, who in later years was a member of the State Legislature from the Fourth District, and formerly a Sch. Haven hotel keeper, was located at 115 E. Norwegian St., where Fred Coleman, the pigeon shooter formerly ran a popular place.

Outstanding resorts of the third ward included Harry Little, at 23

South Centre St., the old Coogan place. Little, for years, was steward of Pottsville Lodge of Elks and is now engaged in business at Lancaster. Clyde G. Allan, now living at Overbrook, Philadelphia, conducted the Allan Hotel saloon, associated with the Allan Hotel founded by his father, Thomas G. Allan, at the corner of Centre and Mahantongo Sts., on the site of the Necho Allen Hotel. W. K. Weidensaul ran the Penn Hall Hotel at the northwest corner of Centre St. and Howard Ave., in which was a well conducted saloon business.

In the fourth ward were several saloons which were much frequented resorts: Edward Heffner ran one at 230 North 12th St., the place where a similar business was conducted by Abe Yedinsky, a popular constable and fireman of the same ward; Martin Motley had a place at 622 W. Market St., formerly known as the "Fourth Ward Hotel"; Christ P. Maul's saloon was at 706 West Market St.; C. Edward Reichard, afterward a constable of the ward, had a saloon at 1229 West Market St., just above the West End Hose Company's quarters, known for years as the "Lamb Inn," previously Henry Nichter's (not related to J. H. Nichter) business place and also that of Charles Herbert.

George Reinhart ran the "Red Lion", at 10th and West Market Sts. This place of business was conducted by several generations of Reinharts, Anton Reinhart, father of George, having charge of it for years. The latter still runs it. The latter's wife frequently served roast goat and sauer kraut lunches and other German dishes for bar patrons. They derived such fame that many of them were eagerly sought by people, living squares away, who would not enter a saloon. Benj. F. Stone was the proprietor of a place at the

northeast corner of 12th and Arch Sts. The Stones conducted it for a long time after the Volstead days.

Joseph H. Clay, in the fifth ward, was proprietor of De Court Hotel, run for some years, at the corner of Third and Laurel Sts.; William Cayzewski, at 424-426 North Second St. had a saloon business, across from the court house, for a decade or more. He called it "Lawson's Tavern." This was the primitive Meiswinkle stand.

Thomas B. Golden ran the "Park Hotel," with attached saloon, above the grammar school building, on North Centre St.; James Greenhalgh had a place at the northeast corner of Second and Market Sts., where "Bob" Howell and "Jack" Smith previously were in business; Peter Hoak ran the saloon, corner of Seventh and Minersville Sts., previously known as Scheerer's; Felix Lafferty's saloon was located at 215 North Centre Street, the former O'Neill and Boehner places; Joseph Pacenta who was in charge of the old Leonard "Rising Sun" Hotel, at the corner of Second and Minersville Sts.

John S. Stoudt was proprietor of the "Eagle Hotel," with its associated saloon business, previously conducted by Joel A. Dinger.

Richard Phillips ran the "Exchange Hotel," which also had a bar, corner of Centre and Race Streets. This was earlier conducted by Samuel Garrett, former chief clerk to the county commissioners, later by Captain Cyrus Sheets, a First Defender of the Civil War, and, still later, by Hieter & Dinger. The wholesale liquor store of Frank C. Palmer, County Treasurer, and father of Judge Cyrus M. Palmer, for years was located just south of and adjoining the hotel.

In the sixth ward there were many saloons. George Bernhardt ran one at the southeast corner of Coal and Nichols Streets, previously conducted

by John Schneider. John Weissinger, on the west side of Coal Street, a short distance south of the Nichols Street corner, for years ran a drover's resort, the "Black Diamond Hotel," where a profitable saloon business was also done.

Charles H. Brown was the proprietor of the "Stockyard Hotel," in the same locality as that of the Weissinger property. Andrew Condrak ran the hotel, on West Railroad Street where for many years. Henry and "Barney" Ruppert, and their mother, who handled the business when they were too young to assume the responsibility, had a place of business; Patrick F. Gallagan had a saloon on Peacock Street; the Birmingham saloon was on the same thoroughfare, and Kate Nesbitt's "Bee Hive" on Peacock Street.

Patrick Gallo who is still carrying on the business, was located at 554 North Centre St. It was formerly conducted by Al. Schappell, who dubbed it a hotel and gave it his name. Albert Lecher had a saloon at 732 North Centre St. Felix C. Rehman's "Black Diamond" Hotel is remembered as on North Centre St., a block or so this side of the State Armory. Andrew Shamus ran a saloon at 501 North Centre St., the former Gottschall place. The almost perpendicular hill, part of Harrison Street, from Centre to Second Sts., was named "Gottschall's Hill," from that family name. It skirts the southern part of the Gottschall property. Stiney Switzsavage's place was at 352-354 Front St., Jalappa, and Peter Wiznicki's business at 337 Peacock St.

The Seventh ward, which a score of years ago, before its merger with Pottsville, was the Borough of Yorkville, also had within its jurisdiction saloons which were known. When prohibition was enforced, Geo. F. Dimmerling, corner of 18th and Mar-

ket Streets, conducted the saloon and hall which were built by his father, Jacob Dimmerling. The license of the saloon, established by Alois Eli-son was held by his son, Peter Eli-son, and son-in-law, John E. Bettler, at 1961 Mahantongo Street. Mrs. Bertha E. Lotz, at 1616 West Market St., is still running the oldest continuously-conducted saloon business in that section of the city. Charles H. Smith was in charge of the Hoak place of business, now conducted by P. Grazis at 2297 West Market St. This was at the terminal of the old trolley line out Market Street.

Other saloons that flourished prior to the Volstead days were: Charles Miller, one time proprietor of the saloon at the Penn Hall Hotel; the "Railway House," at 12th and Russell streets by Charles Tople and "Jake" Griessel; "Wally" Benner, the "West End Hotel," at 12th and Market Streets; "Mike" Stephany, who managed the "Green Leaves" and sold homemade wine; Jesse Thompson, the "Railroaders' Hotel," in the basement beneath the Fisher jewelry store on Centre St.; Schomper's Hill-side beer garden, run many years ago by "Cinnamon Lew" and, in later times, by Frank Reiter.

Oscar St. Clair had the "Black Horse," where the "Car Cottage" was located. John Raring bought this place and built upon it. The property was destroyed by a fire on Thanksgiving Day, some years ago.

The "Stars and Stripes," on Railroad St., was run by "Jack" Humble. Phil Storch had a place under the Centennial Hall, the site of which is now covered by the A. & P. Store on Centre, north of Race St. Joseph Elliott opened a place where the Pottsville Tobacco Store is now located, on W. Market St., which was run by Henry Heckler.

Anton Reith had a place at the site of the property of Elmer E. Nagle, on the north side of Market, west of Third St., above the old Foster homestead. At Seventh and Market Sts., Louis Detzner conducted a saloon which was used for the same purpose, by John McBarron, some time before Detzner took charge of it.

Prof. Leo Schwarze, organist and choirmaster of St. John's Catholic Church, and musical director of the old Apollo Club and the Pottsville Liederkrantz, for some years ran a saloon where the Outlet Store is now located.

Dan Eagan had a saloon on the east side of Centre St., a short distance south of Minersville St. This was the resort of sports, especially those engaged in county cocking mains. Many contests were arranged for at this place, and Eagan held hundreds of dollars as wagers and stakes. Bags, holding a half dozen or more prize fighting roosters, could be found hanging upon hooks in the back of Eagan's place at almost any time of the day or night. In later years, big "Connie" O'Brien, son-in-law of Eagan, ran the business.

Mr. Cleary had a place on Railroad St., near the P. R. R. trestling. Daniel Coleman, who ran the "White House" at the corner of Logan and Norwegian Sts., for a time, went to Frackville, where he built a property on an extensive scale. Philip Lambruskini, father of Joseph Lambruskini, of Somerville, N. J., for a time had a saloon under the Foster shoe store on N. Centre St.

William Zukauskas, for a number of years conducted a business at 116 E. Norwegian St. It was known as "Billie's Cafe." Louis Clausman, for a number of years was in business under the Mt. City Building. Jack Mullen ran the Atlantic Gardens at

Thirteenth and Russel Sts. John Kraft was at the corner of Market and Centre St., under where the new Thompson Building now stands. John Weiss, at one time, had a saloon at Market and Second Sts., where the Baird Building now stands. Charles Rausch ran the Palace Cafe in the Union Hall Building at one time. Nick Fox ran the City Hotel next to the Union Bank and Trust Company. Hugh Fox ran it after him, as did also William Potts and Captain Huckey.

A man named Seville had a saloon where the Odd Fellows' Hall is now located. Mose Hine, Alex Gaunsey and Joe Flannery were some of the early proprietors of the Sterling House. Years ago, Hannah Gauf or Goff, had a saloon where the Reading station now stands. Seville was also under the Union Hall at one time, as were also the Cooney Bros. Old-timers remember Tom Pearson, an Englishman, who was near where the Outlet now stands. A Mr. McNally had the Sheridan House between Arch and Race Sts. Charles Staehle was at Centre and Norwegian Sts., on the northeast corner.

Among the best known restaurants and saloonkeepers was "Stixey" Michel, who at one time conducted the place at the site of the present Kresge Building, 16 S. Centre St., and Benjamin Zimmerman, where the Alco is now located. W. H. Kline succeeded to the Zimmerman stand.

Back in the early days, about the years 1867 and 1868, we find among the names of those holding licenses, the names of Jacob Schumaker, George Shofer, John Slitzer, who had a place near the old rolling mill in Fishbach; Gottlieb Steidle, whose place was the Blue Tavern, near the Reservoir on E. Norwegian St.; Jacob Weiss, T. B. Whitman, Bernard Dotterweich, corner of Centre

and Market Sts.; Edward Kelly, John Kohler, who had a porter house between Seventh and Eighth, on Market; Hannah Lambert, who was located on E. Norwegian St., near the borough limits; James Murray, Val Schmidt, Bob Herbert, who kept what was known as "The Burning Rag"; Joseph Ackerman, on Railroad St.; Mrs. M. Strouse, William Nunemacher, Charles Van Dusen, at Union St., near the Railroad Depot; John Bernard, on N. Centre St.; Jacob Bickert, in Jalappa, and John M. Crosland, on S. Centre St.

About the years 1901 and 1903, E. J. Frehafer was at 406 N. Centre St.; O. Ginther at 114 N. Twelfth; William A. Griesbaum, at 222 S. Centre; P. Phillips, at 116 W. Mahantongo; J. H. Schucker, at 222 N.

Centre; W. H. Sowers, at 212 N. Centre; Joseph Nicolody, at 406 N. Centre; George Ploppert, at 732 N. Centre; Mrs. John Siebenkase, at 622 W. Market; George Ulmer, at 352 Front St.; David Watkins, at 476 N. Centre, and Mrs. H. Weissinger, at Coal and Nichols.

In later years, about 1905 and 1906, in addition to those already mentioned, we find the following; Charles C. Borbach, then at 6 S. Centre; George Bickert, at 14 S. Centre; William H. Boyer, at 124 W. Market St.; Andrew Devlin, at 322 N. Centre; James Gallagher, at 101 N. Railroad; Joseph Ginther, at 230 N. Twelfth; P. J. Haverty, at 501 N. Centre; Andrew Michael, 216 N. Centre; Henry J. Ney, 200 N. Centre; Mrs. E. Vogel, 216 S. Centre.



Pottsville's Mission Forty Years Old

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* December 7, 1933)

While glancing through the "Republican" of Dec. 7th, 1915 a reference to the preparation which the Pottsville Mission was making for the Christmas holidays called to mind that the Mission history dated back many years, and that in that time, many prominent women of the community had been connected with the movement.

The Pottsville Mission is observing the fortieth year of its existence, the movement for the establishment of a mission being started in the year 1893. The present Mission House on Minersville Street is the tangible result of a dream long cherished by a number of Pottsville women, who were interested in charitable matters.

An excerpt from a "Republican" of the date of Oct 9th, 1893, is as follows:

"Miss Emma Pott, Mrs. Chas. H. Dengler, and Mrs. A. R. Bartholomew as a committee have been investigating the neighborhood of Eighth and Harrison Streets and Ninth and Minersville, known as 'Swampoodle' and 'The Heights.'"

Then, still later on, in the Woman's Edition of the "Republican" published on June 13, 1896, we find that the movement had progressed and the following account of the work was given:

"The Schuylkill County Female Bible Society appreciated the need of Mission work in Pottsville but no action was made in regard to it until after the return of Miss Emma Pott from a visit to the missions in New York City. The work could not be established under the charter of the Bible Society so on Tuesday morning, May 9th, 1893, as the minutes read 'upon adjournment of the

Schuylkill County Female Bible Society held in the Second Presbyterian Church, the following ladies resolved themselves into a society to be known as the Pottsville Mission Home Missionary Society: Mrs. P. W. Sheaffer, Mrs. Frank Carter, Miss Emma Pott, Mrs. John Medlar, Miss Sarah Silliman, Miss Genevieve Pershing, Miss Manah Garretson and Mrs. D. D. McGinnes.'

The organization was completed in September with the following officers and managers: Pres. Mrs. P. W. Sheaffer, 1st Vice-Pres. Miss Emma Pott; 2nd Vice-Pres., Mrs. W. K. Woodbury; Recording Secretary, Mrs. D. D. McGinnes; Corresponding Secy., Rev. A. R. Bartholomew; Treas., Miss Annie Hinterleitner; Librarian, Miss Manah Garretson. The Board of Managers were: Mrs. W. E. Boyer, Mrs. B. L. Taylor, Mrs. C. L. Pershing, Mrs. John Medlar, Mrs. R. C. Green, Mrs. M. E. Andrews, Mrs. H. C. Cooper, Mrs. Wm. C. Fox, Mrs. Walter Sheaffer, Mrs. Frank Carter, Mrs. C. H. Dengler, Mrs. W. B. Townsend, Mrs. E. G. Hay, Miss Sarah Silliman, Miss Nellie Rosengarten, Miss Mary Wetzel, Miss Naomi Sparks, and Miss Tillie Dornan."

It had been decided that the membership should be unlimited and should consist of all who contributed a dollar to the work. The meetings were to be held at the homes of the members. Mrs. P. W. Sheaffer was the first contributor and during the remainder of her life was intensely interested in the work. A home was purchased at 8th and Minersville Sts., and again referring to the old newspaper files, we find this account of the dedication in the paper of Apr. 1, 1895:

"The dedicatory services of the Mission at Eighth and Minersville Streets took place yesterday afternoon, April 1, 1895, and were of a very impressive and pleas-

ing character. The ladies who have managed the Mission had the service in charge. A Glee Club, composed of young men who attend the mission, sang a number of selections and Miss Ella Bright rendered a beautiful selection. The musical program was directed by Mrs. Theodore Dewees. Rev. A. R. Bartholomew, secretary of the Mission, made the opening prayer and followed this in a very appropriate address, in which he reviewed the work of the Mission. W. K. Woodbury, Esq., also made an address. Rev. E. P. Greenidge, pastor of the A. M. E. Church, offered a fervent prayer, and Rev. Bartholomew pronounced the Benediction."

Committees were appointed to visit the homes and solicit the children and mothers to attend the meetings at the home on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Sunday School classes were soon commenced, and a Mother's Club was formed. There were also classes for boys, and singing classes, which were largely attended. The young girls of the vicinity were organized into a sewing school, and were greatly benefitted.

This untiring work went on, and in the summer there was a picnic or a trolley ride, with ice cream and pretzels being given the children.

During the year of 1896, Mrs. P. W. Sheaffer passed away and she was greatly missed. She made the Mission possible, being the first and largest contributor, and encouraging others to do likewise. Miss Emma Pott was elected president to fill the vacancy left by Mrs. Sheaffer.

In 1903, this organization changed its name, and became known under its present one, the Pottsville Mission, with its object to do mission work within the corporate limit. The laws were the same, and the meetings, instead of being held at the homes of members were held in the Y. M. C. A. building.

In 1905, the Board of Managers realized that the work had grown so

rapidly that the present quarters were totally inadequate for the large and growing work of the Mission and for the future activities in which they would like to engage.

Therefore, it was decided that the Women's Civic Club should be asked to assist the Mission Board in raising funds for a new building. Miss Pott, the President, appointed Mrs. Jas. Archbald, Mrs. J. W. Beecher, and Mrs. W. K. Woodbury as a committee to take the matter before the Civic Club, which pledged its cooperation.

A Miss Frank of Phila., was secured to come to Pottsville to direct the drive, making the Y. M. C. A. her headquarters. The drive was for \$12,000 of which it was proposed to spend \$8,000 for the erection of the building and to keep the balance as an endowment fund.

On May 25th, 1909 the town was divided into nine districts with Miss Anna Russel and 10 assistants in charge of the 1st district; Miss Frances Little of the 2nd; Miss Maude Lewis, 3rd; Mrs. J. B. Cullum, 4th; Mrs. E. L. Herndon, 5th and Miss M. Louise Barker, 6th and 7th; Miss Marion Whitehouse, 8th and Mrs. Frank Hause and Miss Mary Bretz, 9th.

The goal was realized and on March 2nd, 1910, the new Mission was formally opened. The officers of the board at that time consisted of Mrs. Carter, Pres.; Mrs. J. W. Beecher, Mrs. Umbenhen and Mrs. Geo. Kaercher, Vice-Presidents; Mrs. J. P. Jones, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. S. R. Wells, Recording Secretary and Miss Manah Garretson, Treasurer.

Of course, after the Mission work was moved into the new home, the work increased, and has done so ever since that year. Too much cannot be said for the splendid work being done there, and the cooperation of the resident workers and the Board of

Managers and especially the women of the classes of the Mission, who do a great deal to make it the success that it is.

Immediately upon completing the new home, it was deemed wise to have a resident worker, and Miss M. Louise Barker was decided upon. She did not live at the home, as her residence was in Pottsville, but she was there every day, over-seeing the work. Those women who have been resident workers at the Mission are: Miss Louise Barker, Mrs. Graves, Miss Sarah E. Myers, Miss Holt, Miss Nixon, Miss Isabel Sinclair, Miss Warrington and the present worker, Miss Myers who is dearly loved by all the mothers and children of that community, with whom she comes in contact.

In October, 1918, during the influenza epidemic, a home for convalescent patients was opened at the Mission House, where 59 patients were cared for during the entire period; 27 being cared for at one time.

After this epidemic, a plot of ground next to the Mission House was given to the Mission by Mrs. Louise Hause, a member of the Board of Managers. This has been equipped with swings, slides and sand boxes. It keeps the children off the streets and there is regulated and supervised play, and the children are taught to play with one another and take turns at the various amusements. The official opening day was July 3rd, 1919.

During the life of the Mission at various times, legacies have been left to it, all of which have been put into an endowment fund. Of course, this the Mission has for the expenses which are too large to depend upon this income. Once a year, appeals are sent out to the people of Pottsville, and their returns are most gratifying. Also, quite a sum of money for maintenance is raised by the Mother's

Club, the Helping Hand, and the Women's Bible class and without them, the Mission would not have risen to the standard which it has. In 1922, the May Day Festival was commenced, and has been an annual event ever since.

In 1927, a large assembly room on the second floor of the House with a stage suitable for holding entertainments and suppers was commenced, and completed in 1928 at the cost of a little over \$8,000, which was raised by popular subscription, and since that time has been very useful. Here plays are given, suppers are held to raise money, gym classes, and the classes in dancing are also held in that room.

For many years a very successful Baby Clinic has been held at the Mission every other week. During the year 1932, 40 children of school age were given free luncheons three times a week. The work is done by the women connected with the Mission and the resident worker. The food is supplied by the Welfare Relief, but is prepared by these women who give their services free of charge.

Summing up the classes held in the Mission we have: Plain sewing, dressmaking, basketry, canning, gym and home making classes and also a Sunday School which has been held since the very beginning, with a good attendance every Sunday afternoon. During the week, volunteer workers meet with the small children several days a week.

The present Board of Managers is composed of: Mrs. Jas. Archbald, President; Mrs. E. O. Marty, Mrs. Harold Beecher, Mrs. Frank Farquhar, Mrs. George Keiser, Mrs. Roland Y. Luther, Mrs. Frank McCarthy, Mrs. Paul Sheaffer, Mrs. B. Helm Stockett, Mrs. Emil Weber, Mrs. W. K. Woodbury, Miss Jennie Hause, Miss Manah Garretson, Miss Maude Lewis and Miss Edith Miehle.

Schuylkill County Famed for Its Boxing

By MICHAEL F. (MICKEY) WALSH

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* December 8-9-11-2, 1933)

"Mayor F. Pierce Mortimer on Friday appointed a boxing commission to be known as the City of Pottsville Boxing Commission, which will control all boxing matches in the city limits"—from the "Republican" of Dec. 8, 1916:

Boxing always had a large following in the county and some of the greatest fights (as far as action was concerned) were fought in or close to Pottsville.

Several athletic clubs were formed to allow the followers of the sport to enjoy themselves, for at that time pulling on a boxing glove was an offense liable to a fine or jail sentence or both. So, to get around this difficulty clubs were formed and bouts staged for the members only but, of course, each member had a few close friends who were always allowed to witness those matches.

One of the clubs whose rooms were on S. Centre St., was known as the Goat Club, another the Audobon (or similar name) whose boxers were instructed by the late Congressman Ross Lee and he was credited with turning out some pretty good boys. Another club was located where the Sheaffer Building now stands and Tom Clark conducted another in Centennial Hall. This was really the first gym for the training of fighters to locate in Pottsville. Here Arthur Chambers the English scrapper was located for a short time, being brought to Pottsville by Clark. A. D. Knittle, the local attorney, was another close follower of the game and he still follows the boys closely, being present

at almost every show held by the local club.

The first club formed for the sole purpose of developing fighters was organized in 1892-3 by George (Bull) Weissinger, the present time keeper, and was called the Alexis Club. He erected the club house in the hollow just across the Pennsy tracks from where Buechley's lumber yard is now located; Weissinger leased the ground from a man named Lawton. the same man who owned what we now know as Lawtons Hill and George paid ground rent for this site up to 1917.

Weissinger in his time was himself a fighter, a second, promoter, referee and manager, and, as all the present day fans know, he is still active in the game.

To give the present day fighters an idea of what the old timers had to contend with we will present a story of the memorial scrap between Billy Surfield, then just a greenhorn over from Wales, and Denny Ryan, the New Castle killer—this is the New Castle now known as Broad Mt. or Darkwater. No fight was ever fought under more tiring circumstances.

Originally, George Stevens, at present a member of the Phoenix Hook and Ladder, was to have fought the windup against some boy whose name cannot be recalled, and Ryan and Surfield were slated to meet in the semi. The "law" got wind of the proposed scrap and issued notice that if an attempt were made to stage the "sparring match" everybody connected with it would be arrested. The fight was to be staged in Centennial Hall and as phones were practically un-

known at that time there was no way to notify Surfield, who lived in Minersville, that the fight was off. So accordingly, Surfield and his backers hiked over to Pottsville and found that there was no fight, Jack Toole, a great figure in the sporting activities in the county at that time and later sheriff, was Surfield's chief adviser and manager and he raved and fumed when he found out that the fight was off. Somehow they got word that Ryan and Weissinger were down in Mike Whalen's saloon which was located where the Capitol Theatre now stands, and they hiked down there with Toole telling the world in general and the New Castle crowd in particular what the "Welshman" would do to the "Shanty Irishman".

Mike Kerns, of Tamaqua, a brother to Big Bill Kerns, who later conducted a boxing club in Tamaqua and was later killed in an auto accident, was one of the chaps who did not think that Surfield could beat Ryan and he said so to the extent of close to \$300. Then the argument was on in fair. The Minersville crowd posted \$400 and the Ryan boys came right back with a like amount and everything was set but the spot to stage the battle.

Weissinger, who used to rent Bettler's Hall (later Dimmerling's) at 18th and Market Sts., went out and made arrangements to rent the hall for an entertainment and then the crowd started from Whalen's close to midnight, walking out Market St., carrying the ring in sections. One fellow had a post, another some canvass and still others with turn buckles and ropes. But somehow they got it out there and Weissinger and the boys pitched in and erected the ring.

It was two o'clock when the principals finally entered the ring after an argument as to who would be referee.

Mike Kerns had considerable experience in this line, having worked quite a few fights in this section, as well as in New York, and they wanted him to take the post, even though he did have the bigger part of the money in the Ryan stakes, but Mike refused, as he was going to handle Ryan, and as it turned out, it was a good thing that he did. Weissinger was next picked, but he, too, refused, and finally both sides agreed on George Stevens, who was to have fought the windup on the original card.

Surfield was under a handicap from the start. He wore street shoes into the ring, and did not have regulation fighting trunks, while Kerns saw that Ryan was properly equipped. The fight started, and the Welshman was giving Ryan a fine pasting until the second round. He smashed a wallop low. It was purely unintentional, and Stevens was in a tough spot. Kerns jumped into the ring, and demanded that Ryan be awarded the fight on a foul. While he was arguing, he was working on the New Castle boy. The Toole crowd were just as loud in their protest, so it was finally settled that after a four minute rest, the battle would be resumed. Kerns had Ryan all wrapped up during the argument, while Surfield sat alone, uncovered, while the debate was going on. Consequently, Surfield was pretty well chilled when time was called, and Ryan went to work on him, turning the tables, and knocking him out in the fourth round. It took 10 minutes to revive the beaten fighter, but what action was crowded into those four rounds of milling!

Although there was only one fight to be fought when they went out to the hall, matches were made between different fighters, until they

were fighting until 6:00 o'clock in the morning.

Tangle Enders knocked out a Yorkville fighter by the name of Yeasted on the same card, but the other fights skipped the Old Timer's memory.

Next day, Chief Burgess Yeasted issued a warrant for Weissinger for not getting a "permit" to conduct the "entertainment," and a fine of \$10 was paid, being made up by Kerns, Mike Whalen and Weissinger.

The ring which Weissinger built for the Alexis Club is still in use, and some famous men fought inside the same ropes that the boys are now climbing through every week at Charlton's Hall.

Such men as John L. Sullivan, Bob Fitzsimmons, Jim Corbett, Jim Jeffries, Danny Dougherty, George (Little Chocolate) Dixon, Allentown Joe Gans (the original Joe Gans) lightweight champion; Young Erne, Willie Lewis, Jimmy Bonner, Darby McDonald, Hook McDonald, Matt Carroll, Billy Miske, Buff Siddell, Jackie Clark, Pete Latzo, Steve Latzo, Tommy Loughran, the Ferguson boys, and hundreds of others well known to boxing fans strutted their stuff in the same ring.

Four times the ring was rescued from burning buildings. The fire that destroyed the Hummel Hall came close to taking the ring with it, but "Bull" managed to get it out. The same happened when the Academy burned down, it having been used a night or so prior to the fire. Weissinger received some burns about the hands while tearing it down as the firemen were battling the blaze. At the Slater Theatre (Centennial Hall) fire, Weissinger again rescued it, and when the hall, where the fights are held today, then known as Dunn's Hall, caught fire, Bill Dunn got the ring out of the way,

although this blaze was not enough to destroy the building.

The ring was used in Mahanoy City, Tamaqua, Hazleton, Shenandoah, St. Clair, Minersville, Port Carbon, in fact, in every place there was a fight, it was Weissinger's ring they used. Tommy Loughran scored one of his scarce knockouts in this ring, stopping a battler named Taylor at the Minersville Ball Park.

Weissinger promoted that never to be forgotten scrap between Paddy Bonner and Darby McDonald, which came close to causing a real riot. It seems that the boys had "agreed" that they would put up a nice exhibition, but nobody was to get hurt, but something went hay-wire, for Darby knocked Paddy as stiff as a board in the second round, and then fists began to fly. Jack and Jimmy Bonner, both scrappers of note, wanted to clean up Darby and his brother, Hook, who was also a scrapper, and any one who as much as admitted that they knew the McDonalds, but it was all stopped, but not before quite a few were presented with Irish Delights (black eyes). The fight took place in 1912.

Spider Martz, another local pride, battled Frankie Welsh for the lightweight title of the state under Weissinger's promotion, and Burke, of Scranton, and Minnich, of Tremont, staged a great fight under the same direction. Bull and Jim Cosgrove, of New Castle, had a little feud of their own, with Weissinger beating Jim twice and getting a draw in their other meeting.

Tumbling Run was the scene of more than one battle, and it was out there that a couple of Mt. Carbon boys found out how hard Philadelphia Jack O'Brien could hit.

The story is that O'Brien was up here training for one of his fights, and was doing his road work in knickers—and to wear knickers in

this neck of the woods at that time was an invitation to your own funeral. Accordingly, O'Brien was trotting along the road skirting the "Upper Dam," when a few of the Crow Hill crowd saw him and began to abuse him. O'Brien let it pass, but they wouldn't. They ran with him, all the time giving him the worst of a tongue lashing, some of which would be unfit for print.

Finally the mild-mannered O'Brien stopped and started to throw punches. He threw so many that the local boys thought they were in a gang fight, and they beat it home, sadder but wiser.

Saint Clair Fights

Fights were held in St. Clair in the old Armory under the direction of Weissinger, Frank (Cap) Hennessey and later in Boone's Hall, where a crew of the lovers of the sport started a club. It was at this club that Pete Latzo, who later became the world welterweight champion, fought his first windup, meeting Georgie (Circus) Reynolds, Progy Deegan, local policeman, fought Larry Monahan one of their battles in this hall, and Jackie McDonald, Joe Hirst, Joe Flannery, Bradley Walsh, Patsy Belmont, Mickey Kelly, Johnny Lord, Rattler Geary, Ray Honicker, Al (Dory) Sands (Sandzick) and others put up some real battles in this club.

Fighters like Kid Frederick, Joe Campbell, Steve O'Neil, John (Kid) Donaghue, Deegan. Monahan, Steve Antozie, Eddie Mates, Mike Haley and others too numerous to mention swapped many a blow in this hall.

Minersville had a club for a short while, with Tim Harvey making one attempt to revive the game over there about eight years ago, when Otto Hughes had practically his entire stable up here fighting. Later,

Dr. H. O. Clappier, the dentist, and Joe Perry tried to make it go, and although they gave the fans real fights, they just about broke even. Andy Allen, Henri Miellen, Red Saunders, Joe Hadfield, Wally Sears, Georgie Keysock, Fumbler Martin, Johnny Craven, Al Mack, Joe Borelli—in fact, it was at this club that Borelli got his start; Len Whalen, Frankie Paul, Young Luckenbill, Syl Lite, Mike Lucas, and others swapped blows for the entertainment of the fans in the Globe Hall, where that club was located.

Several outdoor fights were staged at Minersville Ball Park and Railway Park, near what is now Yorkville Pines, had some pretty interesting scraps take place. It was at those two places that the Ferguson-Latzo feud; Weyman-Mahoney and Weyman-Mills had their say, and Battling Kopin got in good with the fans here. Also Gabriel Marcello had his innings, with the Fair Grounds and Connors Park as the battlegrounds.

One of the most interesting battles of wits and fists fought during this time will be discussed later.

The game was put back on a paying basis at the Academy of Music around 1914 when Tommy Markee, a Philadelphia fight man, backed by local capital started out to give the fans real first class boxing.

Some great fights were staged there where Charlie Mulhall, Jimmy Bonner, Nick Hollywood, George Chip, Young Erne, Matty Carroll, Jack McCarron, Joe Borelli, Billy Miske, Buff Sidell, Hook McDonald, Eddie Revoir, Jack Brazzo, Tony Scatton, Gint Hollywood, Jack Grady, Eddie Hayes, Young Mack, Allentown Dundee, Johnny Leonard, Tommy Quigley, Kid Lewis and a host of other first class battlers sent the fans home talking to themselves after watching a pair of them in action.

Improved Fighting Conditions

In 1913 when F. Pierce Mortimer was elected mayor he organized the first boxing control board and did a great deal to put the game on a higher plane. His rules caused the "chislers" more than one headache for with the rules he had framed he put an end to fixed fights, fighters running out at the last minute, promoters advertising a bill and failing to live up to the advertisement and many other new angles that helped put the game out of the "thug" class.

He appointed Dr. Henry Dirschedl the first club physician—the first in this part of the country. It was he who ruled to abolish the "coaching from the corner." In fact several of the rules that Mayor Mortimer put into effect are still on the books of the later formed Pennsylvania Boxing Commission.

Irvin Heinz, local merchant, was the promoter here at that time and he had to post a certified check for \$1,000 before each fight for good faith, guaranteeing the appearance of the fighters he advertised. The promoter in turn had to demand that the fighters in the principal bouts be in Pottsville two days prior to the date of the fight and in this way the interest in the game was greatly stimulated. He also insisted that the fighters post a forfeit for weight and appearances. Fighters like Billy Miske and Buff Sidell hailing from the middlewest came here and made their home in Pottsville for some time, Miske later rose to fight Jack Dempsey twice. Joe Borelli, Eddie Revoir, Jack McCarron, Charlie (Kid) Thomas, Steve Latzo, K. O. Sullivan, Allentown Johnny Leonard, Al Willis and others flocked here to fight as they realized that with the rules that Mayor Mortimer had laid down they were protected. The fans also took a new slant on the game, for they, too, were protected by the posting of the check before each fight.

Around 1917, the late Wm. B. Shugars took up the promotion game, he had several matchmakers working under him and Pete Moran, now a matchmaker in Phila., and Johnny Burns, the same man who runs the Cambria in Phila., took a fling at making matches for Pottsville.

Shugars staged his fights at Dunn's Hall, the same hall in which the present weekly fights are being conducted, it being annexed by Thomas Charlton after he built his building adjoining the Dunn Hall.

Here, too, some great scraps were staged, Jackie Clark, Steve Latzo, Danny, Joe and Tommy Ferguson, K. O. Sullivan, Kid Gleason, Swat Mulligan, Johnny Zeno, Charlie Kid Thomas, Jack Brazzo, Jackie McDonald, Johnny Cobb, Allentown Johnny Leonard, Kid Broad, K. O. Ketchell, Joe Mooney, Danny Cooney, Honey Boy Evans, Georgie Weyman, Al Willis, Stan Willis, Bobby Wolgast, Johnny Crane, (Jay McCloskey's lightweight hope), Eddie McAndrews, Tug Lewis, Tony Scatton, Dinky Hughes, Johnny Mahoney, Mickey Mills, Tommy McDonald, Joe Meluskie, Willie Baker, K. O. Loughlin, Bradley Walsh, Patsy Belmont, Joe Hirst, Kid Mack, Martin Judge, Al Mason, Battling Kopin, Len Rawlings, Kid Ahrensfield, and Leo (Kid) Deegan, the present member of the city police force.

Several wildcat promoters made their entrance to Pottsville every once in a while and put on a few shows, only to fade out over night. Then, Johnny Burns who promotes the Cambria in Phila., was induced to try it and he staged a few shows here, introducing a number of boys who kept fighting in the region after he gave it up.

Among the number were Al Markie, Bobby Wolgast, Al Reynolds, his brother, George (Circus) Reynolds, Young Clancy (Pete Latzo), Eddie McAndrews, one of the best light-

weights in Phila. at the time, and Charlie (Kid) Thomas the boy who used to sing "Mother Machree" or "That Old Irish Mother of Mine" and then go out and knock someone out.

Jay McCloskey of New Castle had an Englishman up there who was not long on these shores and who showed a willingness to fight. If Jay did nothing else, he made sure that he got his fill of the fight game.

Johnny Crane was the chap's name and he worked at what is now known as the Repplier but then known far and wide as "The Chance." McCloskey also worked in the breaker there and it was Johnny's job to be "on the dump chute" where the mine cars were emptied into the breaker. He had to see that all the lumps were broken or rather, he pulled them into holes in the floor that led to the rollers which broke them up. Once in a while there would be a few lumps too big to go into the hole and Crane used a rock hammer to smash them, McCloskey and the rest were going to make sure that Johnny had the proper training so they filled a cement bag with fine rice coal and suspended it from a beam and every time that Johnny got a minute to rest up he would sail into the "heavy bag" and punch it around. He developed his arms all right but he butchered his knuckles as the sharp coal cut through the canvass gloves that he wore. But, between the coal and the sulphur water, Crane developed a pair of hands that would have been the pride of an old timer. One could strike a match on the knuckles because they were so rough and hard.

McCloskey and a few others used to box with Crane and he was in pretty good shape for the battle but he was no match for the fast moving, sharp punching McAndrews who a short time later fought Benny Leonard. He just about cut Johnny to pieces and after the fight Johnny

with his cockney accent said "I would 'ave liked to 'ave beat him, I would. 'e 's a good name 'e 'as". Johnny was sent in the second time but it was no use.

Rumors had it that he had been A. W. O. L. from the British Army and was wanted. Anyhow, Johnny disappeared as quickly as he came but he might have been developed into a winner if taken along slowly.

Willie Sheehan, Earl Dreher and Spider Cole were a few who started around this time, so did Jackie McDonald of Mill Creek and Joe Lescavage of New Phila. Knockout Brown, of Minersville was doing quite a bit of leather pushing leading up to his retirement at that time and Sam Achey and Progy Deegan were having their feud. Kid Fredericks, about the greatest that Pottsville ever produced was about through then. He fought a couple of times after that but that was the start of his fade out.

Fredericks is still interested in the game and is generally found at the local fights every Tuesday night. Other evenings he can be found at the Park Hotel where he makes his headquarters.

Then Charlie McKenna, a conductor on the Mauch Chunk trolley lines came into Pottsville, secured a license and staged some mighty good shows, but he did not get the support. The fans were pretty fair but Charlie never could get the support from certain sections of the press and he was practically forced out of the picture after bringing fighters like Allentown Joe Gans, Georgie Gemas, Babe McCorgary, Georgie Smith, Irish Tommy Kirby, Johnny Haystack, (the same Haystack who fought at the present club but is now only a shell of his old self), at that time Johnny was capable and did mix with the best in the country. Honey Boy Evans, Len Herring, George Tully, Tommy Cleary, Young Zeno, Swat Mulligan, Polish K. O.

Brown from Shamokin, who had an awful wallop but seldom could find any place to put it, and others.

When Tommy Charlton built the new hall adjoining what was first known as Dunn's Hall they transferred the fights from the "little hall" into the "big hall" and they have now been switched back into the "little hall" again although the stage that at one time held the ring and later was used for ringside seats, has now disappeared and a set of bleachers erected in its place.

The last windup in the old hall was between Johnny Zeno, later a constable up around Mt. Carmel, and Swat Mulligan the Port Richmond ashman. What a battle that was! The boys must have trained for the scrap in gang fights for they certainly did have destruction in every wallop they let go. Both were exceptionally strong and liked to "stay put". Let them go and what a night it was for the fans! Mulligan won whatever there was to win and for his victory, he earned the right to be chopped up by Georgie Weyman in the first windup in the new hall which was not quite finished at that time.

Mulligan knew nothing but hit. He had considerable weight on Weyman but the Red Fox from Girardville used to feint Mulligan into a lead and then beat him to the punch. He was inside his wide swings peppering his ribs and face and out again before Swat knew what it was all about but Weyman couldn't knock him out.

One of the bloodiest fights ever staged in the "big hall" was the night Honey Boy Evans then being groomed for a shot at Matt Adgie (a fight which Adgie's manager would never agree to) and a stocky Irishman from Wilkes-Barre, answering to the name of Scut Kelly fought it out.

Scut came down with the reputation of being a good hitter and as tough as they make them. The lat-

ter reputation he lived up to and then some. The once or twice that he hit Honeybooy he shook him but at that time Evans was fit to tangle with pretty near any middleweight in the country. He started knocking Kelly down in the second round, in the third he broke his nose and the blood was flowing from a cut under the one eye; in the fourth Honey himself took a belt on the jaw that sent him back into the ropes and it looked as though Scut was going to stage a rally but he shot his bolt in a few punches and Evans went to work on him again. Scut was down and up so often he must have thought he was on an elevator and the merciless Honeyboy kept shooting them in. In the fifth, Kelly had to be lifted off of his chair, his nose was broken, there was a gash under one eye and over the other and his body was a cherry red from the beating he was taken but he stubbornly refused to quit. Jack O'Donnell, the referee, went to his corner and wanted to stop the fight but Kelly raved. He still thought he had a chance to tag Honeyboy with "just one on the chin" but he never got it over. The last two rounds Honeyboy did slow up and allow the visitor to come in, throwing punches that lacked power, Evans hit him but did not put anything back of the punches. Both boys were covered with blood when the bell sounded, ending the scrap and Kelly got the greatest ovation that was ever accorded any losing fighter in this region.

They met again later but Evans made short work of Kelly who really never got over the first beating, and he was stopped in two or three rounds.

Another great fight which was a surprise was staged when Markie and Wolgast were fighting in here. The pair met and put up a peach of a scrap. They were rematched but late on the afternoon of the battle it

developed that Wolgast was not going to show up and a hurry call was issued for an opponent for Markie. He was traveling at a fast clip at the time and did not find it easy to get fights. None of the fighters, willing to fight for the money they were paying here, wanted any part of Allie but Joe Bush of Shenandoah who was at work in the mines at the time was thought of and he was pressed into service. "Just a workout for Markie," said the wise guys, but what a workout it turned out to be! "Nibsie" had no regard whatever for Markie or his reputation and he gave him Hail Columbia all the way through and Al never wanted any part of Joe after that.

In the big hall, another great upset occurred when Charlie Martin, a little Greek from Phila., came up here to meet Joe Flannery of New Phila. Joe was fresh out of the army and had fought at St. Clair a couple of times and beat Jack McDonald in that memorable scrap at Connors Park when he cut the Mill Creek boy up and badly battered him, the fight being stopped.

Flannery had met such men as Carl Termain, Al Wolgast, Battling Murray, (the latter fought a great fight in Canada against Jimmy Wilde the great little Welshman) and practically all the bantams in the east. He was the favorite of the region at the time and always entered the ring with the top cut from a campaign hat stuck on the top of his head and wearing an old green sweater.

Martin was not conceded a chance against Flannery. They thought it might be a good fight for about three or four rounds but that Joey would get him by that time. Well, he didn't!

When Flannery had someone in there with him that he was sure he could beat, he used to have a habit of clowning and jumping in with a jab much on the same order that Pat Igo leaps in with that flying left

hook. Well, the fight started off as doped out; Flannery was hitting Martin and getting away, although the dark-skinned battler showed that he was plenty quick himself. Then Flannery made the mistake. He started bouncing around and leaped through the air at Martin, who let go with a straight right that landed flush on Joe's jaw as he was in mid-air. The crack of Flannery's head hitting the floor of the ring could be heard all over the hall, and there was not one fan in the hall who figured he had a chance to get up, but he did, but he could not protect himself, and the referee called a halt, awarding Martin a well earned knockout. Martin prospered for a while, but the money got him, the same as hundreds of others.

The Flannery-McDonald fight at Connors was an odd one, too. One version of the pre-fight dope was that Flannery, who was pretty shrewd, knew McDonald was a little heavier when right than he (Flannery) was, and Joe put up a howl about the weight, just to get Jackie peeved and into an argument. It worked out the way Joe had counted on, with the result that McDonald placed a bet that he would be the lighter going into the ring. Joe took the bet, but paid no attention to weight other than to be sure to make the contract weight, but in the meantime getting word down to McDonald that he was four or five pounds lighter than he actually was, and McDonald, instead of letting the small weight bet go, and come in strong, weakened himself to win the bet, and sapped his strength and removed whatever chance he had of beating Flannery.

Gabriel Marcello was the disappointment of the region. The big Italian was being groomed by a local sports writer to make the grade in the heavyweight division, but he had

nothing but strength, and he faded out quickly, aided by one, Jack Stone, who crossed up some wise money and knocked the local Carnera out in short order. Stone hit Marcello so hard that the fight was over in short order.

Then, after a lapse, Frank Hollister, who had been promoting in Girardville, came down and made a dicker for the hall, and he is still at it, running the shows at White City in the summer, and Charlton's "little hall" in the cold weather.

Hollister, in his 17 years of promotion, has only called off one fight, and that just a few weeks ago when he called off the entire card rather than run in a sub.

Hollister-promoter fights drew the biggest gates in this section. He drew \$5,100 for the Igo-Buckey Boyle fight, which many contend was the best fight of Igo's career. The one Hadfield-Igo setto pulled in \$4,300, and the night Pat fought that kid from Newark, with Jack Dempsey as referee, they drew \$4,800; the prices ranged from \$1.50 to \$3.00.

Frank made Igo with his fights here. The one that really caused the fans to take the freckled-faced kid from Shenandoah seriously was the night he stopped game little Mickey Casey, from Reading.

Casey was a local favorite, having knocked out Freddy Ward, of Lehigh, who was introduced to the fans by Charlie McKenna, and what a hitter he was. In Casey, he met a hitter just as hard, but a faster puncher, and Mike beat him to the punch and knocked him out of the picture. Igo had been beating everything in sight, having a real wallop in either hand, but it was the style of delivering his left hook that provided the necessary color to make him a drawing card.

Casey was so confident that he would beat Igo that he bet his end

of the purse on the outcome, but he could not get out of the way of Pat's dynamiting left, and was knocked out after being floored half a dozen times. It was a shame to see the game little Berks County boy practically ruined, just because some one would not see Igo's real worth as a scrapper.

Steve Smith, the Bridgeport Ironman, was brought here by Hollister for Joie Hadfield, and what a fight that was! Two human bulldogs, who didn't know how to walk backwards, kept walking in, all the time punching. Smith, by his sharper punches, carried the first few rounds, but then Hadfield's constant boring into the body began to tell, and it was anybody's fight at the end of 10 rounds. Al Winkler, Tommy Liberto, Eddie "Kid" Wagner and other leading Phila. scrappers were brought in for Pat, but he always managed to come out on top. The Wagner fight nearly resulted in a riot before the fighters ever reached the hall.

The late Charlie Deeney, a lover of the boxing game, kept a saloon on N. Centre St., right between where Holahan's and George Fox's place now stand, and it was there the fighters weighed in the day of the fight.

Igo was to have made 136 pounds for the veteran Wagner, who had fought the best in his class, but was then past his peak. In fact, the outcome of this fight caused Wagner to forsake the ring.

Al Lippe, one of the finest fellows who ever handled a fighter, was managing Wagner. He was a gentleman all the way through, going out of his way to make the other fellow feel comfortable. Two o'clock was set as the time for the weigh-in, and Pat, realizing he was a little over the limit, tried to get on the scale and away before Wagner came in.

There are several ways of making a scale do tricks, and one of Pat's handlers knew quite a few of them. However, Wagner and Lippe arrived on the scene, and Eddie stripped so they could both weigh in together. Wagner had no trouble in making the required poundage. Pat, knowing he was not right, kept fretting. He was a bundle of nerves, and Wagner was in no hurry getting undressed. By the time Wagner was stripped and into the scale room, which was packed with newspapermen, fans and handlers, Pat was in a fine temper. He jumped on the scale and was 138. The mild-mannered Lippe looked at the scale and then at Pat, but Wagner piped up, "That don't look like 136 pounds." Lippe turned to Eddie and told him to keep quiet, but Igo shouted a name at Wagner that means fight in any country, and Eddie threw himself toward Pat. Both boys fought hard to get into each other, but willing hands held them apart. Lippe went to talk to Igo, but Pat, in a temper, called him the same name he had called Wagner, and Al said, "Allright, young fellow, I was going to overlook the weight question, and not take your money, which I have a perfect right to do, but now I'm going to take it for your failure to make the required weight at the specified time. If you can get off the two pounds by 3:15, I'll allow Eddie to fight you; otherwise, I get the 4:55 train out of here for Phila."

There was more storming by Igo, but they took him to a steam room in the basement of the Deeney place, and began to sweat it off. Lippe, however, relented, and when Pat came up still a pound heavy, he allowed him to keep his money, and the fight went on.

Pat did not forget the incident. He told Wagner he would make him eat the gloves, and he did pretty

nearly that. That veteran never had a chance. Pat was all over him, storming rights and lefts from all angles, and the fight did not last long, and as mentioned above, it was the last fight for Wagner.

Pat continued to climb, meeting some of the best in the country, and scoring a real upset when he knocked out Wesley Ramey in Phila.

Hollister continued to promote, getting his bad moments as well as his good ones, and when other clubs shut their doors, he hit on the idea of the Depression Shows, which he started at White City, with prices ranging from 25 to 60 cents. They were later adjusted to 40 and 80, and at this writing are 60 and 80, with promises of \$1.10 tops, with general admission being set at 75 cents for the new shows, which will have an eight round windup and six in the semi.

The new shows in Pottsville has produced a number of promising boys, the more prominent being Johnny Greycar, of Eckley, and Joe Fedz, of Shenandoah, and who can tell but that within the next few years we may have a contender developed from those little "jitney shows."

Early Girardville Bouts

In Girardville, boxing flourished in the early days. Bouts were at that time held without sanction of the authorities and many times the principals were threatened with arrest and in some cases had to pay a fine before they were released.

In order to get around the fact that boxing was not legalized, fraternal organizations in different towns sponsored the bouts. In Girardville, it was the Eagles who staged the fights, Frank McKeon was their matchmaker and many interesting and hard fought battles were staged under his direction.

One of the most noteworthy incidents in the history of the game in this town was the one scheduled as a grudge scrap between Frank Reagan, now a barber in Lost Creek, and Jack Grady, of Ashland. The fight was down for twenty-five rounds and was under the promotion of Owen McAnally, one of the most colorful sportsmen of that time and Pete McHale, of Centralia, one of the leading referees of all times in this section. McHale is still hale and hearty, running a cigar and electric supply store in his home town, while McAnally has passed along.

So intense was the feeling between the rival crowds that it was feared that bloodshed might result if the men were allowed to go on. So, the sheriff's office at Pottsville was notified by some of the "Law and Order" citizens who demanded that the fight be stopped.

The sheriff then announced that if the men attempted to fight he would have his special officers swoop down on the Girardville Opera House where the fight was to be held and arrest, not only the principals, but every spectator as well. McAnally and McHale, however, knew a few tricks of the game themselves so they inserted a paid advertisement in the leading papers of the county saying that in spite of threatened arrest the fight would go on as scheduled. McAnally then went out and passed the word around to the fans who could be trusted how he was going to hold the fight. What a silly looking bunch of deputies waited around the opera house to make their arrests on the day of the fight while McAnally and McHale quietly transferred the scene of the battle to Heskers Opera House in Mahanoy City. A hundred or so of the fans who were not in on the secret flocked to Girardville and there were just enough of them to keep the sheriff and his boys excited but

by the time they found out what had happened and arrived at Mahanoy City, the crowd was coming out of Heskers where Grady won a rather easy victory for Reagan was exhausted at the end of the twenty-five rounds of milling.

This was only one of the many exciting scraps held under McKeon's reign.

In 1916, a new promoter put in his appearance in Girardville and he did much to elevate the game in this section, he was a movie man named Frank Hollister, the same Hollister who now runs his weekly shows in Pottsville and the only consistent promoter the region has known in the past twenty years.

Hollister promoted some great scraps in the theatre he now uses as a movie house. He managed Georgie Weyman of that town and made more money for him than any other fighter in the region ever earned (with the possible exception of Danny Cooney and he made his money away from here) and possibly Pat Igo.

Hollister promoted such scraps as the Kid Mack-Jack McCarthy, Johnny Mahoney, of McAdoo and Weyman. This pair met nineteen times over distances ranging from six rounds to twenty and every meeting was a scrap from bell to bell. Jack Brazzo and Kid Mack fought a couple of times for Frank and Jackie Clark of Fall River, one of the best middleweights of that time, fought a savage battle with Tommy Coleman; those battles took place in 1916.

In the following year, Battling Kopin and K. O. Willie Loughlin fought a savage scrap and the Weyman-Mahoney feud went six more fights totaling over 150 rounds; Danny Cooney and Weyman went over the twenty round distance and Jack McCarron, of Allentown stopped K. O. Sullivan, one of the toughest middleweights that this county turn-

ed out, in fourteen heats. Sullivan and Eddie Hayes staged their memorial scrap under Hollister. This ended in a riot when Hayes knocked out Sullivan after seven fierce rounds. The crowd, however, stormed into the ring and after considerable wrangling and free punching the fight was resumed and Sullivan won by a great rally.

Ren Carlin was cutting quite a figure at that time and Hollister matched Weyman and him for Girardville. The way the tickets sold for that fight indicated that the Girardville Opera House would not be half big enough to accommodate the crowd that would be on hand for the scrap so Hollister got in touch with Jimmy (Casey) Gildea, at Coaldale and between them they arranged to transfer the fight to Tamaqua. Hollister protected his own interests by getting 25 per cent. of the gate as his end. The special train that took the fans from the Ashland-Girardville section was made up of 11 coaches and a band went along to keep the fans in good humor. One of the biggest crowds in the history of the sport in this section attended this fight.

Hollister continued to promote in Girardville until he transferred to Pottsville.

Some of the great battles he staged in Girardville before coming to Pottsville were the Weyman-Cooney; Joe Mooney-Danny Cooney; Hughie Sweeney-Georgie Weyman; Sweeney-Georgie Russell; Battling Reddy (the present referee) and Danny Rogers; Weyman and Rogers; Georgie Weyman-Sailor Matty (Weyman's comeback); Mickey Mills-Weyman; Mills-Mahoney (Mickey is at present a bus driver for the Schuylkill Transportation Co.); Andy Allen-Abe Cohen; Pat Igo-Charlie Gibson; Andy Allen-Weyman; Weyman-Harry (Kid) Brown; Cooney-Matty; Hayes-Wal-

lace; Honey Boy Evans-Tubby Noble, and countless others.

When he finally found that he was outgrowing the little opera house at Girardville, Hollister came to Pottsville and procured Charlton Hall as was noted previously.

Many Battles At Ashland

Back in the "good old days" Ashland was the scene of many a stiff battle and some good boys were developed in this section, but it was not until the early nineteen hundreds that the game really took on an important part in their world of sports.

In or around 1903, Jack McBrearity went into the game in earnest, staging the bouts for the benefit of the Eagles. Some fierce hard fought battles were staged for the entertainment of the boys who liked their sport rough.

Jack Grady, Jimmy Bonner, Hook and Darby McDonald, Jack O'Gara, and Frank Grady were the leather slingers of that section at that time.

One of the most talked about fights under McBrearity was the setto featuring Kid Beebe, one of the greatest scrappers who ever lived and believed to have fought more ring battles than any other man that ever climbed through the ropes. Beebe is still active and can be found at the Phila. Arena in the winter and the ball parks around Phila. in the summer, making his living selling peanuts. Opposed to Beebe was Hughie McGovern, brother of the famous Terrible Terry. So fierce was their first meeting that they were matched again and again until they clashed five times. Prices for those fights were fifty cents, a dollar and a dollar and a half.

The bouts were staged in the Opera House which was on the corner where the Temple Theatre now stands. By a strange coincidence it was on this same spot about twenty-five years later that the attempt to revive the

game was made when Joe Kline ran a series of shows in the Temple Theatre.

Jim Boyland of Mahanoy Plane, and Jack Grady fought a great scrap there, but the greatest of them all, was probably the meetings between Jimmy Bonner and Grady, Jimmy Bonner and Hook McDonald. Bonner also met Darby McDonald and each and every meeting was a hotly contested battle—often times for just enough to cover expenses and more often than not the fighters bet on the outcome of the battle so that the loser had nothing but a mass of bruises to show for his trouble.

Frank Grady who is still in Ashland, was another great boxer. Many contend that if it were not for the fact that Grady never wanted to be marked up he would have been the greatest that ever came out of the county. He was not yellow—far from it—but he just did not like the idea of having his face lifted. He fought a great scrap with Jack Brady for Jack O'Gara, now commissioner of Northumberland County, when he knocked out the tough Brady. Shortly after this battle Grady went to Pittsburgh to study to be a chiropractor and there met Joe Choyinski, one of the greatest scrappers of the Jeffries-Fitzsimmons age and struck up a friendship with him that has lasted until this day. Grady and Choyinski both graduated at the same time. It is not known whether Joe is still practicing, but Dr. Frank Grady, Chiropractor of Centre St., Ashland, is still practicing and is never too busy to sit down and review his early days in the ring when big purses were unknown.

McBrearity was instrumental in staging the great 15 round fight between Charlie Mulhall and Jimmy Bonner at Mt. Carmel. Any one who witnessed this battle will swear that it was the fiercest scrap ever staged

in the region. There were something like sixteen knockdowns in the fifteen rounds of milling and Bonner and Mulhall were so badly battered up that friends would have encountered difficulty in identifying either of them for days afterward. Bonner told the writer that he had to stay in Mt. Carmel for one week after the fight to wait for his face to get back to anything like normal shape. It was four days before he was able to see, so badly were his eyes swollen and even after a week in Mt. Carmel his friends in Tamaqua and Summit Hill did not know him when they met him as he alighted from the train at Tamaqua on his return from the fight.

McBrearity quit as a promoter in 1909 and the fight game was at a standstill from that time until Joe Kline and Bill Leinenbach revived it about 1928. They staged some good bouts drawing good crowds for a few years, but the past two seasons they have given it up. The failure of the Jimmy Herman-Sam Weiss match to draw brought about their decision to leave the game alone for a while.

Tamaqua Once Active In Sports

Tamaqua gave the fans up in that section all the fights they cared to look at for a number of years. Some good boys were turned out and some of the biggest upsets in the history of the game took place there.

It is only in recent years that Tamaqua has not been active in sports. About the last promoters to make a success of it were Tim Kennedy, at present a resident of Pottsville and Vince Gildea. Those names appeared on the surface but the hand of crafty Jimmy (Casey) Gildea could be seen back of many of their matches. They didn't come much shrewder than the same "Casey". Big Bill Kerns and Hughie Gallagher were also mixed up in later day promotion in that town.

In the days when they "made up" a fight in a bar room or hose house there were many stirring battles but few surpassed the wild time that was had at Summit Hill back in 1898 when Paddy Kennedy and Mike Kerns were matched for a side bet of \$500. This was a lot of money in those days when a man's pay was counted on the basis of "a hundred days, a hundred dollars" and a great crowd was on hand when the pair faced each other, besides the side bet placed by the backers of both men there were individual bets placed as to how long the fight would last as it was slated to be a finish.

Jim Manley, later chief of police in Shenandoah, a great lover of the game and still active in boxing in the county was picked to referee the bout, a position no one begrudged him. Jim was a big strapping fellow not afraid of man or beast and the backers of both men felt that they would receive fair treatment.

The scrap started and the men threw caution to the wind, wading in, throwing both hands as fast as they were able to pump them. Kennedy sent one in foul and Kerns was hurt but did not want to quit. Manley then warned Kennedy that he would tolerate none of that style of fighting and if he dropped another foul blow, he would stop the fight and award it to Kerns.

Evidently Kennedy did not think that Manley had the courage to go through so he took the chance and gave Kerns another low one. Right there the Kennedy five hundred found its way into a new home. Manley stopped the fight as he said he would and then raised Kerns' hand as a token of victory and the crowd went wild. They were going to kill Manley and for a while it looked as though there wouldn't be anybody on the ground left in fit condition to get an ambulance to

haul the injured away but it all quieted down, all bets were paid and Jim Manley took his place in the history of the county as another Tim Hurst who had the courage of his convictions and was not afraid of mob law.

It was after that fight that their first club was organized and several different combinations made a try at promoting.

"Red Dick" Coogan, a well known sportsman who ran a hotel in Pottsville, gave it a trial and it was he who promoted the scrap between Scaldy Bill Quinn and Jack Bonner at Lakeside.

Along about 1902, there was a little youngster in Coaldale who attracted attention and he was knocking stiff everybody he faced. He weighed only 118 pounds but he was taking on lightweights and in a few instances middleweights. They all looked alike to this youngster until they were forced to recognize him and they sent to Centralia for Young McAndrews, the best bantam in this section to try out the Coaldale boy. He beat McAndrews and they were re-matched for Girardville under the promotion of Owen McNally, one of the most colorful figures in the game. This was the second windup for the Coaldale boy and again he stopped McAndrews with Jack McBrearity as referee. It was then that Nick Hollywood was recognized as the best bet in the region at his weight and still regarded by many as the greatest piece of fighting machinery that ever came out of the coal region.

As now, as soon as a county boy gains recognition, they go out for some one to beat him, so they sent to Wilkes-Barre for Tommy Quigley, and they were matched for fifteen rounds at the Academy of Music at Pottsville. Pete McHale, of Centralia, was picked as referee and

Pete tells his version of what happened in that fight, in his own words. It was the only time he gave a decision against his judgment and he explained why he did it.

In those days you traveled by train or horse and buggy and McHale came in on the Reading train from Ashland. He was met at the station in Pottsville by a delegation of "sports" who had their money on Hollywood and they told Pete that Nick had to win and if he didn't what would happen to him. McHale said nothing but wended his way up the cobble stones on East Norwegian St. to Dick Coogan's where he had his lunch.

Fight time came and Pete did not have a minute's rest in which he was not warned that Hollywood must win. Time came for the boys to enter the ring and the fight got under way. McHale to this day maintains that Hollywood could have done a better job but he did not work any harder than was necessary for although he was not in on the deal he knew what was going on and naturally did not think that Pete would decide against him. At the end of fifteen rounds, McHale declared the fight a draw which meant all bets off and then things began to happen.

The crowd swarmed into the ring but McHale was able to duck to the dressing room down under the stage and outside the crowd filled the little corridor. Locked in the room McHale was waiting every minute for the door to be broken down by the angry mob for he knew better than any of them that Hollywood really beat Quigley but he would not cater to the gamblers who figured they had it fixed for a killing and the draw decision saved the "sucker" money.

After a time, Pete decided on a bold stroke. He knew that at heart

the fans were a game lot and lovers of fair play and he decided to appeal to their sportsmanship. So accordingly he opened the door and held up his hands for silence which they granted. Pete then told them that he knew they were good sports and that he had a reason for rendering the decision as he did and that the ring leaders of the mob knew it too, so he took the only way out to give the intended victims an even break. He further appealed to their sportsmanship saying that if it were blood they wanted he would go back up into the hall and fight anyone they chose with the understanding that after that fight it was all to be forgotten. No one took him up and the mob who a few minutes before were howling for his head were cheering him to the echo. That Nick could beat Quigley was proven shortly after when he knocked him out in a few rounds up in Tommy's own back yard.

Dick Coogan ran a number of fights in Pottsville and Nick fought for him more than once, meeting Mike Haley of New Castle and stopping him in one of them; Pete Sharpe, at present the "Republican" agent in Lansford, promoted the fight at Manila Grove near Coaldale between Hollywood and Tony Scatton. He fought Billy Bevan at the same place later for the same man.

The late Stump Boyle was one of Tamaqua's early promoters as was Bill Andrews, Pete Sharpe, Phil Ehrig, the present sheriff, Big Bill Kerns (later killed in an auto accident) so was Jimmy Bonner for a short time and also Hughie Gallagher, Vince Gildea and Tim Kennedy.

Fights were staged in the old Vulcan Iron Works and Walker's Hall and later the Liberty Hall.

About 1918, Gildea and Gallagher were giving the fans their fights and

from then up until about 1929 they got some real battles.

Jimmy (Chum) Bonner of Summit Hill and now of Tamaqua, rated as the best lightweight in the region fought some great battles in Tamaqua. He fought Al Dewey, the present referee, up there and Al was a real tough, two fisted battler who gave any of them plenty to think about. It was there also that he fought Battling Nelson, the lightweight champion and this fight nearly caused a riot for Nelson was too tough for any man of his day and Bonner never knew when he was licked and his backers could not stand to see him bested.

Jimmy put a crimp in the career of more than one boxer up that way, knocking out Gint Hollywood, a younger brother of Nick in one heat and he shellacked Young Neil of Allentown.

Under the promotion of Bill Kerns and Chief Ehrig, he gave George Chip the beating of his life in 20 rounds, practically ruining the promising killer from Tamaqua. Up to this time Chip had been knocking out everybody he faced but the crafty Bonner who was really over the crest of his greatness knew too much and punched too hard for Chip and he was never the same afterward, although he asked for and got another chance at Chum.

Gint Hollywood broke in about 1904 at Summit Hill against a chap named Gallagher from Number Six patch. Gallagher was a sparring partner of Charlie Mulhall. He beat Battling Johnson of Wilkes-Barre, Young Gates and others but lacked the killer instinct of his brother and never reached the peak with Nick. Gint stopped Jake Battick from Tuscarora, in short order. It was a great fight while it went.

One of the first open air shows in the history of the game was slated

for Coaldale ball field, it was to have been fought in a tent with Nick Hollywood and Harry Decker, later boxing coach at the University of Pennsylvania but Sheriff Jack Toole, himself a great fight fan, came in and warned they that he would have to break it up if they started so they called it off.

With all their champions and near champions, it was Georgie Weyman who drew the greatest money to the Tamaqua Club. Every time the Red Fox fought he packed the house. Even after he contemplated retiring but came back to knock out Young Robinson, a cocky colored battler, who was located about two miles south of Tamaqua, the hall was packed to the doors. Weyman saw the colored boy knock out a fighter who fought under the name of Young Firpo and the negro looked good and challenged the world. Weyman wanted to strip and get right into the ring with him then and have it over without the formality of waiting for the following show but the promoters saw it otherwise and matched them for the next windup and again the old Liberty Hall rang out with shouts as the Girardville boy bewildered the colored flash with a display of boxing such as he had never seen before. Weyman's famous one-two worked to perfection that night but The Fox was careful not to knock Robinson out until he thought he had all he would carry. He not only knocked him out that night but knocked him right out of the picture and there were many fellows up there who did not know Weyman as they thought they did who were blinded by the negro's display against Firpo and bet their overcoats on him but they sat by the side of the stove for the balance of the cold weather.

Weyman gets the credit for drawing the biggest gate of that time to Tamaqua when the Ren Carlin-Wey-

man fight, originally scheduled for Girardville, was shifted to Tamaqua because Frank Hollister who was managing Weyman and running a club at Girardville knew that the Opera House in his town would not hold the crowd that would turn out for that scrap and he was right.

Eleven coaches made up the special train that pulled into Tamaqua from the Mahanoy Valley that night and the gate ran between \$3500 and \$4000, a mark for that time and one that has been surpassed very seldom in the region.

A side bet of \$1000 was posted by the managers of both boys; Weyman outboxed Carlin in the first round and Hollister sent him out to end it up in the second and he smashed his right to Carlin's jaw after knocking him dizzy with a couple of left hooks. Down went Carlin for nine. He got up and held on and for the balance of the fight he used the ring and Referee Jack O'Donnell could not make him stick in and make a fight of it.

Weyman fought two sensational fights with Young Chip, the Tamaqua "knockerout" and stopped him both times although Chip was out in front each time up until Weyman connected for the knockout wallop.

In the one fight, Chip hit Weyman on the chin right off the bat and down went Weyman. He got up but his legs were weak. Chip rushed in swinging and Weyman clinched. Somehow he lasted the round out and Hollister, all excited in the corner, rubbed and watered him while Georgie, unable to talk, was making motions with his hands but Frank was too excited to know what he wanted. This happened between every round until the fifth when Chip again connected with Georgie's jaw and he brought back his speech and Weyman in the corner asked for the smelling salts. That's what he had been trying

to ask for but could not talk. He did not even know what round it was. He asked Hollister and Frank told him and also told him that he had to knock Chip out to win. Weyman assured Hollister that he would and he kept his word. Ask anyone who saw those fights what they thought of them. They were both thrillers. The boys later met in Reading and Chip stayed the limit although some say that Weyman was not out for a kill that night.

Chief (Phil) Ehrig promoted the Danny Cooney-Mickey Papner scrap and also the Cooney-Ray Mitchell setto. Danny was one of the fastest in the country having fought and beaten Russie LeRoy, Billy Petrolle, twice and dropping the duke to him once, Jimmy Goodrice, lightweight title holder, Rocky Kansas and practically every light and welter in the country who amounted to anything.

Emil Paulso was a favorite up there and so was Martin Judge, a fast little battler. He has a brother now fighting under the family name, Mandarino and he fought Matt Rice twice a few months ago; Weyman packed them in again with Baltimore Johnny Mahoney (no relative of the McAdoo Johnny).

Then came the day of Honey Boy Bill Evans a boy who might have become middleweight champion had he kept in training. He was managed by Jimmy (Casey) Gildea and fought some rattling good fights with Jack Palmer, Wildcat Nelson, Rockey Smith, Sam Blackastone, Sailor Jack Perry, Johnny Gill, Mike Schultz and numerous others.

An unusual happening occurred in the one fight with Blackastone who was one of the best of his day. The fight was held on the football field at Coaldale and Blackastone was giving Honey Boy a beating when he smashed over a corking right to the head and down went Honey in front

of the time keepers. So hard did his head hit the floor that it rang the gong and Casey Gildea jumped into the ring (although he realized that the round was not up) and dragged Honey Boy to the corner and started to work on him when the opposition shouted to O'Donnell to count Bill out. Finally, Casey brought him out of it and pushed him out to finish the fight but Sam was too much for him. His fights with Nelson and also with Mike Schultz were a treat for lovers of the sock 'em and rock 'em sport.

Evans returned the favor a few years later in Pottsville by scoring what many term as the most thorough knockout they ever witnessed. When Evans hit Perry on the chin in Charlton's the sailor rose right up on his tip toes, quivered for an instant and then fell to the floor as stiff as a board. An hour after they were still walking him around trying to completely revive him.

Along toward the end of his career Honey and K. O. Sullivan fought two of the most unsportsmanlike fights ever staged here or any place else. When they finished they were stripped of their trunks from foul punching. They bit, kneed and elbowed, anything but using a knife. It was the type of a fight that disgusted everyone.

Rocky Smith was quite a favorite. He fought a number of slashing scraps. Besides his fights with Honey Boy he boxed Allentown Joe Gans. It was in this fight that Jimmy Bonner, then a referee, jumped out of the ring claiming the men were not trying and Casey jumped into the ring and pulled Jack O'Donnell up to finish the fight which he did; after the fight there was one not on the bill between Vince Gildea and Bonner down in the dressing room that would have packed the hall. Smith and Palmer and Smith and

Johnny Gill of York were other good scraps.

About this time Casey was reaching out for new fields for Honey Boy for in every fight he learned something; he was offered \$600 for him to fight in Phila., against Joe Gans, but would not take it as he knew too well the ability of the colored boy.

He had him all lined up for three fights at Madison Square Garden when Honey met with an accident. He then went over to Charlie McKenan and before long he fought Gans at Mahanoy City but he hasn't hit the Allentown scrapper yet.

Pal Reed of Boston and Young Britton, Bill Connihan-Honey Boy, Bill Connihan and Joe Comiskey of East Mines were all great scraps. They ruined a good boy in Connihan when they sent him against Evans for the Summit Hill boy was not ripe for such big game.

Comiskey, a boy who moved from up in New England to East Mines, when just a little shaver, was a tough boy with a sock but his legs gave out on him. He and Connihan fought two great fights, Joe when we last heard from him was on the police force in Washington.

Len Lithgow and Tommy Pugh fought another fight that wouldn't look good blow for blow in print, Pugh closed both of Len's eyes and Gildea wanted to throw in the towel but Len said no and he finally fouled the Hazleton or McAdoo boy, ending the fight.

Danny Cooney and Whitey Fitzgerald from Manayunk brought only \$1200 into the hall, while Papner and Danny drew \$2000; F. Pierce Mortimer and Bill Lewis, both of Pottsville, were the judges for this scrap.

Al Mason of Mahanoy City, broke in and was really started by Gildea. His first opponent was Jack Gallagher of Summit Hill. He later caused a mild sensation in the Schuylkill Valley when he beat Joe Flannery of

New Phila. in Liberty Hall; Joe Tiplitz and Georgie Eagle, of California were the top that night. Eagle could fight equally well with a right or left handed stance. All Tiplitz could do was take it.

Jack McCarron, Eddie Revoir and Joe Borell all fought there and one of the funniest scraps of the day was between K. O. Sullivan, fresh from his sensational fight with Gene Tunney and a negro battler named Kid Smith. Smith was only about five feet six and in his bathrobe it looked like murder to send him against Sullivan but once he stripped he showed the greatest chest and legs that ever graced the Tamaqua ring. He was christened right there as "piano legs." The bell sounded and Sullivan with his left hand cocked, rushed across the ring but Smith met him half way with a right hand smash that sent him back on his heels fighting to hold his balance. He went onto the ropes where he bounced forward and clinched, the colored boy tried to work loose and finish Pete but Sullivan was too strong. Finally Jack O'Donnell pulled them apart and they started in again. Once more he parted them and as he warned them to stop clinching and fight. Sullivan in a crouch came sneaking around O'Donnell as he separated them and he landed that left on Smith's jaw and it was all over. But for comedy it was never equalled in that section.

Len Lithgow, Evans, Chip, Al Swilp who was a Tamaqua boy but did not fight much there, Bonner, the Hollywoods, Pete Klept, Ben Herring, at present a policeman in Coaldale, who ended the short but brilliant career of Terry McGovern of Pt. Carbon by stopping him in Tamaqua, were also fighters. Later Lenny Whalen gave it a trial but left these parts. Now there is scarcely a fighter in that valley from New Phila. up and only Fumbler Martin there.

Mike Shigo of Coaldale, and Jack Mitchell staged one of those short and sweet ones with Mitchell, a terrific right hand puncher winning by a knockout, Buster Hoban who was a protege of Nick Hollywood and Tug Wilson, a colored boy, fought another of those "hit and out" battles.

Kroppy Melley of Coaldale, became a fighter just because he thought the boys he watched were loafing and also that he figured that he could beat Battling Levinsky without trying.

He met Sam Evans and both had the same idea but neither knew what was in the other's mind. Melley decided he would rush across the ring and get Evans before he got up off his chair and Evans decided the same. Melley and Evans passed in the middle of the ring. Kroppy stopped but Sam didn't, not until he hit the ropes so hard he tore the ring loose from its moorings. It took some time to reset it and again it was torn loose, this time by Melley.

Then, he faced Barney Williams who was none other than Battling Levinsky afterward lighth heavyweight title holder. Barney had been in many a fight but never did he face a charging bull such as he faced in Melley. The local boy charged across the ring and Levinsky actually jumped out of the ring and ran around on the outside apron. Some declare that he made two complete circles of the ring but he didn't want any part of the Coaldale boy's game and would sooner run than face London Prize Ring style which was what he figured Melley would use.

Phillie Rogers the "Fighting Miner", a six feet five inch young giant, was Coaldale's white hope but he did not get far in spite of the good coaching he received from his father to "Use your up shoot, Phillie". He was boxing with Nick Hollywood one night and he charged the 120 pound Nick

who side stepped and let go with a right and Phillie went out like a light. Nick's hitting ability did not die when he left the ring. Many a 200 pounder up in that section was stretched out by him.

"Foag" Gallagher, the present Chiet of Coaldale, took a fling at the game but he picked on the wrong man when he chose Charlie Mulhall of Mt. Carmel to work out on. This was away back in '98 and "Foag" only lasted a little over a minute and a half. Mike Kerns and Paddy Breslin was another fight that almost slipped by unnoticed. This was one of the gay '90's too.

Boxers who later showed there were Hughie Sweeney, Tommy McDonald, Ad Stone-Frankie Britton. Stone was credited with a knockout.

Tommy Williams made a feeble attempt to bring the game back a year or so ago but the show was a flop. Herb Noakes of Mahanoy City A. C. had the permit under which they operated.

Shenandoah and Mahanoy City boxing will be taken up at a later date.

(Note—The above history is written in the vernacular of the prize ring, which overlooks all rules of grammatical composition.)



Miners Lodge I. O. O. F. 104 Years Old

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* December 13-14-15, 1933)

In the "Republican" of Dec. 13, 1907, a news item told of the fact that on the following day, Dec. 14th, 1907, Miners Lodge of Odd Fellows would observe its 78th anniversary.

Just one year after Pottsville was incorporated into a borough, Miners' Lodge No. 20, Independent Order of Odd Fellows—among the oldest in the state—came into existence. It was chartered on Dec. 14, 1829, and is, therefore 104 years old. Outstanding facts in the history of the fraternal organization is its charter date; that of its institution, Dec. 21, 1829; institution of the Odd Fellows' Cemetery on May 15, 1851; and the dedication of the present Odd Fellows' Hall on March 13, 1908.

Rounding out its century-and-four years, the following are serving as its present officers: Noble Grand, Henry G. Lightcap; Vice Grand, Harry C. Kinzey; Secretary, George B. Teasdale; Assistant Secretary, Charles E. Alter; Treasurer, J. C. Dewees; Right Supporter to Noble Grand, Allen W. Sterner; Left Supporter to Noble Grand, Harry A. Skeen; Warden, John D. Furman; Conductor, Arthur S. Follett; Right Scene Supporter, Philip Donne; Left Scene Supporter, Daniel Roberts; Chaplain, Garrett T. Burd; Outside Guardian, Charles Kimmel; Inside Guardian, Henry W. Lavenburg; Right Supporter to Vice Grand, Edwin H. Price; Left Supporter to Vice Grand, Ralph Kinzey; Trustees, G. T. Burd, Allen W. Sterner, Philip Donne, John D. Furman and Charles E. Alter.

Geo. B. Teasdale, Secretary of the Miners Lodge for a number of years, prepared a history of the lodge to be used in connection with its 100th anniversary celebration. It is from the facts compiled by Mr. Teasdale that this history was prepared for publication in the newspaper.

George Dedrich, Andrew Sheridan, John Espey, Joseph Gordon and George W. Duncan were granted a charter by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. The charter reads:

"to constitute a lodge to be hailed by the title of 'Miners' Lodge No. 20', to be held at Pottsville, County of Schuylkill, State of Pennsylvania."

Of the charter members Messrs. Dedrich and Duncan were first identified with the Order in Philadelphia, the former being a member of Northern Liberties Lodge No. 17 and the latter of Wayne Lodge No. 3, both primitive fraternal organizations in the Quaker City. It is believed that the other members, whose names are on the charter, were also members of lodges in Phila. before making their homes in Pottsville.

It was on Monday, Dec. 21, 1829, that the Miners' Lodge was instituted in the Buckwalter Tavern, located at the northwest corner of Center and Laurel Sts., built on ground bought from John Pott, founder of Pottsville, for \$133.33½, on March 14, 1828. The Tavern was erected during the same year and later became the Northwestern Hotel and still later, after being remodeled, was renamed the Park Hotel.

Until November 26, 1831, the Lodge held its meetings in the Buck-

walter Tavern. The minutes of the early delivery of the charter to the five representatives designated as charter members, shows that the ceremonial was in the hands of District Deputy Grand Master Brown, at the first initiation meeting held on Dec. 21, 1829. Then there were initiated: James S. Wallace, John Miller, Thomas Moore, Leman Gilpin, Stephen Taylor, Andrew Miller, Jacob Buckwalter and Franklin Vanhorn each of whom paid an initiation fee of five dollars.

At the election held following the initiation, these officers were chosen: John Espey, Noble Grand, to serve until the second Monday of the next March; George W. Duncan, Vice Grand, James S. Wallace, Secretary, and Jacob Buckwalter, Treasurer, all for terms of the same period. Then George Dedrich was installed as District Deputy Grand Master, to serve during the pleasure of the State Grand Master, by Deputy Brown.

The Noble Grand's appointments were: Franklin Vanhorn, Conductor; John Miller, Right Hand Supporter; Thomas Moore Left Hand Supporter; Stephen Taylor, Outside Guardian; Joseph Gordon, Inside Guardian; Andrew Sheridan, Senior Warden. The Vice Grand appointed Andrew Miller as Right Hand Supporter and Leman Gilpin, Left Hand Supporter. Benjamin Thurston and Joseph Hewes were proposed as members and Messrs. Wallace, Moore and A. Miller were named as an investigating committee.

For the purpose of framing a constitution the following committee was selected: Messrs. Wallace, Duncan and Dedrich. The receipts of the evening were \$40.

It is interesting to state that only 19 lodges were instituted in Pennsylvania prior to Miners' Lodge, 18 of them being located in Philadelphia and its environs and the other one

in Pittsburgh. The Pottsville organization was the last of the 20 referred to in the early annals of the Order, as the "Mother Lodges." Lodges which had priority to those of Pennsylvania were: Four instituted in Maryland; seven in New York; seven in Massachusetts; one in Rhode Island; two in New Jersey, and two in the District of Columbia. Miners' Lodge was the 43rd instituted in the United States. The Pottsville Lodge was the first representing any fraternal or beneficial Order instituted in Schuylkill County.

Miners' Lodge derived its name from the fact that, when it was instituted, a large proportion of the community were working in and about the mines. Many of the members were miners.

It was on Jan. 25, 1830, that the Lodge adopted a constitution. The initiation fees were fixed as follows: \$5 for the ages between 21 and 45; \$10 from 45 to 50; \$15 from 50 to 55; and \$12 from 55 to 60. The members paid weekly dues of 6 1-4 cents; for members' funeral benefits, 50 cents, and funeral benefits for members' wives, 25 cents.

As general benefits there were paid: Sickness, \$3 per week; funeral account of a member, \$50; and funeral account of a member's wife, \$30. At the end of every term ten per cent. of all receipts were remitted to the Grand Lodge toward its support.

By-laws were adopted March 5, 1830. On Sept. 24, 1831, the first public demonstration of Odd Fellowship of Schuylkill County—a parade—was held in Pottsville. Arrangements were made by committees representing Miners' Lodge and Schuylkill Lodge No. 27, the second and only other Lodge of the Order in the county, up to that time.

In Trinity Episcopal Church, after the procession, Joseph Brewster, of

Philadelphia, the same believed to be Grand Master, in 1836, delivered an address to the members of the Order and a banquet was served at the Buckwalter Tavern at 50 cents per head.

Brewster was paid \$20 for his services, the cost being divided between the two lodges. The Miners' Lodge paid musicians \$10 and also expended \$16.75 for scarfs, etc., used in the parade.

Finding the quarters in the Tavern too small, and the proprietor being unwilling to enlarge the room in which the Lodge had its early meetings, accommodations were rented, on the second floor of the James Moorehead building, at the southwest corner of Second and Market Sts., which occupied the site of the later business structure, erected by Lee Bros., now used by the Pennsylvania Power & Light Company. The rental was \$60 per year, the Lodge also being required to pay one-half of the taxes on the building.

It was on Dec. 3, 1831, that the Lodge occupied its quarters, for the first time. Hayden Lodge No. 44, was instituted on February 14, 1832, and, on March 3rd, of the same year, the quarters of Miners' Lodge were rented to the new organization, the German Lodge of the Order, for \$30 a year and payment of one-fourth the taxes levied on the building. The older Lodge lent the new one their masks and emblems until they prospered sufficiently to purchase equipment of their own.

Miners' Lodge favored organization of a Degree Lodge on August 11, 1832. It became the DeKalb Degree Lodge instituted during that month. The new organization was lent \$10 on August, 1832, by Miners' Lodge, no interest being charged.

Girard Lodge No. 53 was instituted on Dec. 10, 1832, also meeting in the quarters of Miners' Lodge. At

the request of the former organization, on Dec. 28, 1833, Miners' Lodge appointed a committee which conferred with all the Lodges in the district with the result that Franklin Encampment No. 4 was evolved. It was granted a charter by the Grand Encampment of Pennsylvania on Jan. 24, 1834, being instituted on Feb. 7, 1834. Grand Patriarch Jacob Hubilhe was the initial officer to occupy the "first chair."

On Feb. 9, 1833, Miners' Lodge passed a motion that a committee be appointed to meet with committees of the other Lodges for the purpose of providing an Odd Fellows' Hall. On account of the Hayden and Girard Lodges not taking any interest in the project, on March 16, 1833, the matter was dropped.

Among the minutes of Miners' Lodge, of Sept. 21, 1839, was the notation about receipt of a letter, in German, which was ordered set aside until a "suitable person could be found to read it."

During the latter part of September, 1839, all three Pottsville Lodges with the Encampment and the Degree Lodge moved from the Moorehead building, to the town hall, erected on the east side of Centre St., midway between Arch and Race Sts., by the "Town Hall Association." The Miners' Lodge held stock to the value of \$1000 in it. The Lodge held its initial meeting in their new quarters on the 28th of the month. Rental of \$100 per year was paid.

Miners' Lodge, in 1837, invested in 100 shares of the Town Hall Association stock paying \$1,000 for it. Later, investment was made in two shares of Schuylkill Navigation Company's stock, at a cost of \$251.50.

On April 25, 1831, Henry Richards, of the Union Lodge, England, was elected a member, other Englishmen, as follows, being later elected: John Taylor, of Victory Lodge, on Sept. 3,

1831; George Leaks, of Manchester Union Lodge No. 312, Sheffield District, England, on Oct. 4, 1834. Philadelphians, who transferred their membership to the Pottsville Lodge, were: Samuel J. Potts, of Lodge No. 13, on January 25, 1830; and William Hancock, of Northern Liberties Lodge No. 17, on February 22, 1830.

Thirteen members of Miners' Lodge died during the first decade of the organization's existence, among them Jacob Buckwalter, at whose tavern the Lodge was instituted, and its continuous treasurer up to his demise, on Feb. 12, 1836. The others, on the obituary list, were: James H. Bensell, Hanford St. Johns, John Mason, John Bennett, John Bond, Martin Murphy, Richard Bunt, David Jones, Amos Torton, Amos Sorton and Abraham Shipman.

From the institution of the Lodge until the close of 1839, there were 358 members initiated and 60 admitted on card, a total of 418. Losses were: By suspension, 83; expulsion, 8; withdrawal, 160; and death, 13, a total of 264 which brought down the actual membership to 154. All expenses were met and \$3,250 was dispensed for relief. The assets were \$1,352.82 1-2 at the close of the decade.

In conformity with the decree of the Grand Lodge of the United States, in 1840, the Miners' Lodge equipped itself for the working of every degree required by the new mode.

Because the Manchester Unity of England did not adopt the changes made from time to time by the United States Grand Lodge, the difference in the working of the Order on each side of the Atlantic mitigated against British representatives being admitted to the Pottsville Lodge. On Sept. 23, 1842, the ties, binding the English and American branches of the Order, were broken.

On account of the straits in which the DeKalb Degree Lodge found itself, Miners' Lodge lent them \$50.00 on October 15, 1842, the local lodge paid for furniture for the DeKalb organization and procured Degree books.

The Miners' Lodge, with the other Lodges at Pottsville, and in Schuylkill County, took cognizance of the institution of Lily of the Valley Lodge No. 281, in November, 1848. The new organization made a total of four lodges and an Encampment, all thriving, in Pottsville, and all meeting in the same room.

During the decade, \$3,584 was spent for relief. Because of the failure of the Town Hall Association, in 1840, Miners' Lodge lost the \$1,000 which it had invested in stock of the defunct organization. It was found necessary, on Aug. 13, 1842, to suspend payment of benefits for six months and, on Dec. 16, 1843, for 18 months longer. The depleted condition of the treasury prompted the Lodge to sell, at a decided loss, its stock in the Schuylkill Navigation Company.

Deaths, during the decade that started in 1840, were: John Edwards, Joseph Dusto, John Bullison, Mark Fisher, Joseph Chester, Samuel Pugh, George Waxtoff, Henry Fox, William Reed, George J. Harris, Michael Ephlim, Morgan Prosser, Isaac Williams and Isaac W. Smith.

During the third decade, starting in 1850, for the first score of years, the room of the Lodge was lighted with candles and oil, the type of the latter being camphine, a rectified oil of turpentine. The Pottsville Gas Company was incorporated in 1848. It laid mains along Centre Street a year later. Gas was used, in lighting the quarters of the Lodge, on Feb. 5, 1850.

The five Odd Fellows' organizations paid their first gas bills during the

spring of that year, the initial obligation, for gas lighting service, being 76 1-2 cents paid, by Miners' Lodge, on March 19, 1850.

Attorney James H. Campbell, a member of Miners' Lodge, procured a charter for the organization on Dec. 9, 1851.

Another effort was made to have the organization of the I. O. O. F., in the city, unite. Miners' Lodge made the initial move on April 8, 1851. As was the case at the first attempt, it proved futile, the other members not supporting the move.

It was on Feb. 25, 1851, that the Lodge made the first move toward establishing a cemetery. On April 15, 1851, there were purchased two acres of land, owned by the Miners' Bank, located then about a half mile north of Pottsville, for the purpose. Six hundred dollars was paid for it.

The Miners' Bank was not the actual owner of the land obtained but it was the property of the Bank of Kentucky. Samuel Lewis and the Miners' Bank were attorneys-in-fact for Virgil McKnight, trustee of the Bank of Kentucky. Another piece of ground was purchased in 1853. The deed was acknowledged, before Justice of the Peace Jacob Kline, by Samuel Lewis, on May 17, and by John Shippen, president of the Miners' Bank, on May 21, 1851. The deed was recorded on Dec. 13, 1851.

The body of Anthony Fox, whose death occurred on July 4, 1851, a member of Miners' Lodge, was the first to be buried in the new cemetery. The first burial lot was sold to Charles Reed on July 22, 1851. On July 22, 1851, Samuel Faust was made the first sexton. On March 30, 1852, 67 trees were planted.

On March 14, 1853, the second piece of ground was purchased from Virgil McKnight, of the city of Louisville, Kentucky, constituting an acre and 90 perches, triangular in shape, ad-

joining the west side of the first land obtained for cemetery purposes, the price paid for it being \$312.50.

During the spring of 1852 Miners' Lodge held a ball the proceeds of which were \$95.34 which were devoted toward paying the cost of improvements made to the Lodge room that cost \$215.22.

At the request of Girard Lodge No. 53, the lodges all fell in line, during the fall and winter of 1852, and regalia was purchased for the Degree of Rebekah, authorized by the Grand Lodge two years previous.

Miners' Lodge kept up its payment of \$100 rental for accommodations in the Town Hall, which, after April 1, 1857, was increased to \$125 annually. During the early part of 1853 Miners' Lodge had invested a total of \$1,752 in their cemetery.

In this decade these deaths of Lodge members occurred: John S. C. Martin, Anthony Fox, Edward Burns, Enoch Morgan, John Sennett, William B. Morgan, John Edwards, Thomas Mifflin and John Knowles.

From 1860 to 1869 marked the fourth decade in the history of Miners' Lodge. In the Town Hall fire of 1876 the minute books were destroyed.

Daniel Washburn, of the Lodge, was elevated to the berth of Grand Master serving from May, 1861 to the same month of the succeeding year. He was rector of Trinity Episcopal Church from November, 1852, to February, 1863.

Eight lots, in the cemetery, were donated, on June 3, 1862, upon which to bury indigent veterans of the Civil War. The body of William Becker, 21, of Company D, 96th P. V. I., whose death occurred on November 9, 1862, was the first interment on it. On July 9, 1897, all of the plot was filled and another one was donated.

Three acres and 33 perches of land, adjoining the cemetery, on the east side, were purchased from William Phillips, for \$500, on April 7, 1864, and another plot of six acres and 20 perches, adjoining the cemetery, on the north side, for \$3,250, having a frontage of 376 feet and seven inches on North Centre Street, from Wm. P. Glassmire. The final purchase gave the Miner's Lodge cemetery an area of 12 acres and 143 perches, the total acreage extent of today.

Overtures to revive the De Kalb Degree Lodge were successful on March 22, 1865, there being a ceremonial attendant upon the revival and reorganization and Grand Master John M. Crosland presided.

On April 3, 1867, bylaws, revised by a committee consisting of J. G. Lowrey, J. J. Cake and J. A. M. Passmore, became effective.

Just prior to April 1, 1866, the dues were increased from 6¼ cents to 7 cents per week. The rental of the Lodge room also advanced from \$150 to \$200 per year. On April 1, 1869, a ten-year lease, at the same rental, was executed, holding good until the destruction of the Town Hall, during the 1876 Centennial year fire.

The deaths during the decade were: Enos Chichester, Isaac Severn, Charles Auge, John Jones, Amos Kroll, Jacob Harr, Joseph Latta, John C. Friese, Charles Hoffman, John Faull, Matthew Humes, George H. Hoferkamp, James Short, Lewis Reeser, William Christman, John Tregea, Amos Wesner, Frank Pott, Robert Beadle, Henry Thomas, John W. Schreffler, William Clark, Joshua Crawshaw and John Shaw.

In the destruction, by fire, of the Town Hall, on March 19, 1876, Miners' Lodge and all the other I. O. O. F. organizations, of the town, which had their quarters in the building,

lost their furniture, their charters, etc. Though a considerable portion of the archives of all the lodges and Encampment was consumed in the fire, the greater portion was saved. Among the property of Miners' Lodge, the books were charred, smoked and water-stained, but, nevertheless, are still in a fair state of preservation.

The next location of the Odd Fellows' organizations, after the great fire, was in the Lyceum Hall, on the south side of Market, near Centre St., in which they leased a room from William and Heber S. Thompson for five years at \$400 per year, Miners' Lodge holding its first meeting in the new quarters on April 1, 1876. In lieu of the original charter, destroyed in the Town Hall fire, the Grand Lodge issued a new charter, on March 27, 1876, to Noble Grand Daniel Donne; Vice Grand, E. C. Ruch; Charles Wilthew and Charles H. Parker, secretaries; and John Pollard, treasurer.

Troublous times were experienced by the DeKalb Degree Lodge which, again, surrendered its charter on Nov. 13, 1872.

On February 26, 1878 the valuation of the Odd Fellows' cemetery was set, by action of Miners' Lodge, at \$8,000 it having a nominal valuation of \$15,000 prior to that date. James Robertson was the first cemetery sexton employed at a fixed salary, it being \$35 per month. It was during July, 1879, that water service was provided the cemetery.

Pottsville Odd Fellowship observed the semi-centennial anniversary of the institution of Miners' Lodge, attending divine services at the Second Presbyterian Church on Sunday evening, Dec. 14th. A banquet was conducted Jan. 6, 1880, in lieu of Dec. 16, originally fixed for it, the postponement being necessary because Grand Secretary James B.

Nicholson, the guest speaker, could not arrange to grace the function on the previous date. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. George W. Smiley, pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church.

New by-laws were adopted on March 13, 1877. The dues were increased from seven to ten cents per week.

Cognizance was taken in 1878, that the name of the Grand Lodge was changed to the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and a year later again changed to the Sovereign Grand Lodge.

During the fifth decade of the existence of Miners' Lodge the following deaths occurred: Peter Jennings, John Bindley, F. P. Kaercher, Francis Goyne, Edward Mendelssohn, John Sparks, William J. Bassett, Christian Meister, James Glenn, Frederick Fernsler and Nicholas Seitzinger.

The decade closed with the net worth of Miners' Lodge fixed at \$7,025.46 and its membership at 81.

Associated with the opening of the sixth decade, covering the period from 1880 to 1889, twenty three candidates for membership were initiated. This featured the semi-centennial anniversary banquet. In addition to Grand Secretary James B. Nicholson, Deputy Grand Master Alfred R. Potter was also in attendance.

Under an edict from the Sovereign Grand Lodge, the ritual was revised in 1881. For the second time, the DeKalb Degree Lodge was revived and, again, instituted on April 20, 1881. A short time later it failed for the third time.

Paraphernalia necessary to confer the several subordinate lodge degrees, in dramatized form, was purchased on Aug. 27, 1889. J. G. Lowrey was made director of the Degree Staff which was established.

The Lyceum Hall quarters was leased for another five years at the expiration of their first lease on Jan. 4, 1881.

Miners Lodge occupied new quarters in the Hoffman building on July 20, 1886.

On June 12, 1883, a concrete entrance, with iron gates, was constructed on the front of the cemetery overlooking North Centre St. From Frederick Leffler, on June 6, 1882, a two story dwelling house on North Centre St. was purchased for \$1,000 as a permanent home for the sexton.

The minutes of the meeting of March 11, 1884, show as a testimonial to the esteem in which Stephen Rogers, for years High Constable of the Borough of Pottsville, was held, He was presented with a purse of \$50 in gold, marking the half-century anniversary of his being initiated into local Odd Fellowship.

Toward the relief of the many who suffered from the fire at Shenandoah in 1883, the lodge contributed \$25.

The Lodge contributed a similar sum to the relief of the Johnstown flood sufferers in 1889.

Deaths from the membership of the Lodge, during this decade were: Samuel J. Potts, District Deputy Grand Master, in Schuylkill County, from 1836 to 1842; Benjamin Cook, Daniel Kershner, James Alkyard, Thomas E. Jones, E. C. Ruch, Morgan Schwartz, Henry Coller, William Bobb, William Lindon, George Myers, George W. Ent, John Tanner, John R. Stall, Thomas Stodd, William Haydock, P. K. Dillman, William H. Hewes.

During the decade the net worth of the Lodge was increased \$2,402.47 and there was also an increase of 94 in membership.

On April 7, 1891, shortly after the start of the seventh decade, covering the years from 1890 to 1899,

Miners' Lodge, finding the Hoffman building unsatisfactory for their purposes, moved back to the Lyceum Hall building. In 1891, an offer for the use of the G. A. R. quarters, in the Morris or Pomeroy building, was turned down because all of the other lodges would not agree to join in the project. Finally a ten-year lease was procured by Miners' Lodge to continue their occupancy of the quarters in Lyceum Hall.

Another I. O. O. F. organization, Pottsville Canton, No. 29, Patriarchs Militant, was issued a charter on February 20, 1890. The cemetery sexton's dwelling was moved to another location, on the same premises in 1892, and an addition made to it at the cost of \$606.

Cemetery permanent and improvement funds and a lodge reserve fund were evolved during September 1894.

Though a committee was appointed in 1833 and another in 1850 to procure a site for a lodge hall, efforts to make a satisfactory purchase were unavailing both times. Early in 1895 the Lee Estate property, Second and Market Streets; the old Methodist Church premises, on Second just north of Market; and the Freeston property on the same thoroughfare, just beyond it were considered.

Miners' Lodge went so far, on April 30, 1895, as to offer \$15,000 for the purchase of the Lee Estate but didn't buy when the price was advanced to \$17,500. On Oct. 22, 1895, an option was procured on the Morris building, then owned by the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company, to buy the building for \$52,500. Satisfactory negotiations, however, could not be completed, and the Lodge lost the \$100 option money paid. Then successful efforts were made to procure the Lee Estate property, \$15,500 being paid for it.

John Pollard, trustee and treasurer of the Lodge, on March 30, 1897 was presented with a gold-headed cane, as a mark of his fellow members' esteem, on the date of his having been a member of the Lodge for a half century.

In 1897 an assessment was paid toward the first orphans' home. During 1897 the body of Andrew Brown, of Company K, 73rd Regiment, P. V. I., was interred, constituting the 71st burial, which filled the soldiers' plot, in the Odd Fellows' Cemetery. Then 10 more lots upon which to bury the bodies of indigent soldiers were donated on June 21, 1898. The remains of Lewis Keene, of Company C, Ninth Michigan Regiment, proved the first interment on the new burial plot. In later years it was noted that just 103 soldier veterans had been laid to rest, after that they answered their last roll call, on the pieces of ground donated to the G. A. R.

For service in the Spanish-American War which broke out in 1898, the following from Miners' Lodge enlisted in the cause of "Uncle Sam": Captain Baird Halberstadt, Chas. F. Woodward, Chas. R. Batdorff, John G. Smith, Esq., Horace Smith and Abraham L. Eckert. Upon their return from the war, the Lodge gave them a testimonial reception on March 21, 1899, which was held in the Lodge room. Captain Halberstadt exhibited a number of interesting camera pictures which he took during his service in Porto Rico. He spoke of the cordial manner in which the soldier members of the Lodge had been treated by the southern lodges. Resolutions of appreciation were adopted by their home Lodge, and copies were mailed to each of the lodges, below the Mason and Dixon Line, which had acted as hosts to the Pottsville representatives of Odd Fellowship.

In addition to providing a burial place for indigent members of the G. A. R. and other veterans of the Civil War, on March 28, 1899, two lots, with dimensions 10 by 10 feet, were deeded, by Miners' Lodge, to the Spanish War Veterans. The first burial, upon the reserved plot, was that of Charles W. Gangaware, whose death occurred on March 3, 1899.

During the decade the deaths of 23 members occurred as follows: Stephen Rogers, who passed away on July 4, 1892, having been a member of the Lodge for 58 years; Solomon Hoover, who was drowned in the Schuylkill River, when the P. & R. passenger train, in which he was being carried home from Philadelphia, was hurled from the rails and down the bank into the stream at Shoemakersville, on Sept. 19, 1890, a member for 44 years; Lewis Heller, Geo. Heller, F. E. Spiegel, Jas. Greenwood, Jas. Robertson, Wm. C. Ulmer, Adam Cheatin, F. A. Mortimer, Chas. T. Palmer, John Mann, Nicholas Kemp, Albert Bowe, August Muhl, Jacob Trough, Chas. F. Shannon, Jacob Weber, Thos. W. McKee, Chas. Lindemuth, Wm. Berner, Wm. G. Yuengling and Robert D. Colborn.

Baird S. Cooper was the last member elected as assistant secretary which office was abolished by the Sovereign Grand Lodge during September, 1900. This was at the opening of the 1900-1909 decade.

Five more years' rental of the Lyceum Hall quarters, was entered upon, by Miners' Lodge, on April 1, 1902, at \$300 per year.

On April 9, 1902, the Daughters of Rebekah were revived, Mabel Rebekah Lodge No. 237 being instituted by a charter issued by the Grand Lodge under date of April 4th.

In connection with the cemetery the system of providing perpetual care of lots was inaugurated on May 1, 1893.

It was a vital occasion, in the history of Miners' Lodge, when, on June 17, 1902, the final payment was made on the indebtedness incurred by purchase of the Hall site, at the northwest corner of Second and Market Streets. On Feb. 10, 1903, a banquet was served in connection with the burning of the mortgage, Prof. S. A. Thurlow, principal of the high school, Secretary George B. Teasdale and others making pertinent addresses.

Finally, on March 20, 1906, the Young Men's Christian Association bought the site of the Lodge Hall, for \$25,000, whereupon they erected the present building.

On Dec. 4, 1906, Miners' Lodge became affiliated as a member of the Odd Fellows Orphan's Home Corporation.

Miners' Lodge was in the market, again, for a site for their proposed new Hall, and, on March 19, 1907, the Lodge took action to buy, for \$39,500, the property of the Estate of John Seitz, 112-114 South Centre St. Then it was decided, on April 7, 1908, to remodel the building, plans being prepared by Architect C. T. Mould, making the property adequate for Lodge purposes as well as for offices.

George W. Beard & Co., Inc., of Reading, was the general contractor. The total investment of the Lodge in the property and its improvements reached \$66,137.81. The Lodge occupied its new Home, for the first time on March 30, 1909, the occasion being attended with an elaborate banquet.

Twenty-three members died, during the decade, viz: John Pollard, who passed to his final reward on Aug. 23, 1903, after a membership in the Lodge for 56 years, being treasurer from 1867 to 1879; Julius Kurten, who died on Oct. 27, 1903, a member for 36 years, who served as treasurer from 1879 to 1894; Rufus B. Barrett, whose death occurred on July 9, 1904,

a member for 40 years; C. F. Conrad, who passed away on Nov. 30, 1900, having held membership for 45 years; Dr. Robert S. Chrisman, who died on Jan. 9, 1909, a member for 42 years, being District Deputy Grand Master in 1877; Joseph H. Bennett, Heber B. Smith, J. A. M. Passmore, H. G. McGinnes, Henry Betz, Edward A. Moyer, Wm. Vietinghof, Frank L. Lamont, B. F. Patterson, J. George Dengler, Zachariah Pugh, Philip B. Flynn, U. G. Siegfried, Benj. F. Hodgson, Wm. Cooper, David L. Williams, Prof. J. J. Cake and James Steel. The Lodge had a membership of 204 at the close of the decade.

During the ninth decade, from 1910 to 1919, three special sessions of the Grand Lodge were held in the well appointed quarters of Miners' Lodge, on February 8, 1910 when the Grand Lodge Degree was conferred on 90 Past Grands; on April 18, 1916, the same Degree being conferred on a class of 44; and on February 25, 1919 when 50 Past Grands received the Degree. More than 100 officers and members of the Order participated in a big banquet which followed the last ceremonial.

On March 28, 1911, Jacob J. Kuebler, a Trustee for 18 years, having attained to the age of 72 years, as a testimonial by the Lodge, was presented with a handsome gold-headed cane. Testimonials were also accorded A. L. Boehmer, James G. Lowrey and William Smith, at a banquet held on March 29, 1916, each being presented with a Fifty-Year Honorable Veterans' Jewel.

As an improvement, a concrete pavement was laid in front of the building during the summer of 1910.

At a cost of \$1,325 during 1911, a retaining wall, for a distance of about 200 feet, along Centre St., beginning at the northwest corner of the cemetery, erection of iron gates at the driveway entrance near that point,

laying surface and underground drains and enhancing the avenues and walks, constituted permanent improvements adopted.

Contractor Louis Miller, in 1912, excavated the embankment and erected a retaining wall beginning at the end of the old wall, near Cemetery Street, and extending along Centre Street a distance of 500 feet to the end of the new wall which had been previously erected.

On Dec. 7, 1915, Miners' Lodge placed the G. A. R. plots, in the cemetery, in perpetual care, upon receipt of \$600 to cover the same.

Daniel S. Gressang and Arthur J. Womer, of the Miners' Lodge, on June 27, 1916, responded with the troops which gave service on the Mexican Border. In 1917 the same two members, mentioned above, with Christian Heiser, Wm. P. Lohr, George A. Paul and Thos. Meikrantz, enlisted for service in the World War.

It was decided by Miners' Lodge, on Nov. 25, 1913, to become a member of the Association controlling "The Wayside Inn," a Home for aged Odd Fellows, their wives or widows, located at Grove City, Pa.

On Dec. 16, 1919, Miners' Lodge celebrated its 90th anniversary, with an elaborate program, 85 members attending the function at which time the Rev. Simon Sipple, Chaplain, of the Grand Lodge, was the principal speaker.

Forty members passed on during this decade: Augustus L. Boehmer, whose death occurred on April 19, 1918, after membership in the Lodge for 55 years; John W. Conrad, who died on October 9, 1918, after a membership of 45 years, having been a trustee and secretary of the Board from April 7, 1896, to the time of his demise; Charles N. McGinnes, who went to his final reward on June 24, 1911, after a membership of 31 years; William H. Kuebler, William

Herring, Charles Batdorff, Baird S. Cooper, John S. Booth, Lewis J. Lewis, Joseph Fletcher, William Dewald, Joseph Gilmour, William H. Robinson, S. C. Kirk, John H. Zimmerman, Charles F. Derr, George A. Klare, Charles W. Ent, Henry P. Lauer, George M. Smith, Dr. J. Harry Swaving, H. C. Ent, J. Harry Heller, George L. Schraeder, S. Burd Edwards, George W. Kaercher, William H. Sands, Dr. P. K. Filbert, Hiram Parker, Frank B. Fessler, L. W. Sharpless, George W. Rieger, William A. Cochran, James A. Medlar, William Okon, Christian A. Seidel, Elias F. Leonard, Adam Schoen and George W. Dewald.

The worth of the Miners' Lodge, at the close of the decade, was \$51,243.56. The membership in good standing was 211.

During the 10th decade, from 1920 to 1929, in the latter year, Contractor Gordon Nagle built a cemetery supply and tool house, erected of Pennsylvania granite.

The Degree Staff of James A. Garfield Lodge, No. 1061, of Shamokin, was entertained as guests of Miners' Lodge on April 24, 1928, which was a contestant for the privilege of conferring the Third Degree before the Grand Lodge. The same Degree was conferred here, upon candidates of Miners' Lodge, Mineral Lodge, of St. Clair, and Carroll Lodge, of Schuylkill Haven.

Celebrations of anniversary dates by Miners' Lodge were as follows: Ninety-second on December 21, 1921, with a banquet and addresses, 75 members participating; 93rd anniversary on December 12, 1922, with a banquet and speakers, 70 members being present; 99th, on December 11, 1928, with an elaborate banquet, John N. Mark, of Oil City, Past Grand Master and Representative to the Sovereign Grand Lodge, heading a galaxy of able speakers. An-

nouncement was made that the financial status of the Lodge was such that preparations were under way to redeem all of the outstanding bonded indebtedness, \$22,700, during the following January, which would mark the liquidation of an indebtedness of \$44,000, incurred a score of years before.

On the centennial anniversary of Miners' Lodge an elaborate program was carried out marking the existence of the organization for 100 years. During this period, the Lodge had passed through many and varied vicissitudes, some of them strange and most unusual yet, always prospering, the Lodge had steadily increased in financial and numerical strength.

It was on December 20, 1928, that the celebration started, at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon, opening in the Lodge room, in the Odd Fellows' Building, George B. McDowell, Grand Master; Webster Grim, Deputy Grand Master; Simon Sipple, Grand Warden, and Usher A. Hall, Grand Secretary, being among the dignitaries of the Order who participated.

The Grand Lodge Officers formally dedicated the Odd Fellows' Building after the burning of the \$30,000 mortgage executed on January 1, 1909. A banquet followed the dedication, G. T. Burd officiating as toastmaster. Each of the Grand Officers delivered a pertinent address. Secretary George B. Teasdale took up leading events in the long life of the Lodge, a copy of the history being presented to each of the guests, as well as the officers and members in attendance at the function.

On Sunday evening, December 22nd, the Rev. Dr. H. W. Diller preached an appropriate sermon to a large representation of the Lodge assembled in Trinity Episcopal Church. On May 7, 1929, all outstanding

bonds were cancelled and, on May 22nd, they were cremated in the furnace of the Schuylkill Trust Company.

The income of the Lodge, for the decade up to the close of September, 1929, was \$199,925.80; the expenses totaling \$169,958.57; the net income being \$29,967.23. In recapitulation, the following status of the finances showed: Assets of perpetual care of cemetery lots fund, \$39,688.98; assets of cemetery permanent fund, \$7,180; assets of cemetery improvement fund, \$3,875.66; assets of the Lodge, \$81,210.78; total assets of the cemetery funds, \$50,744.64; total assets of the cemetery funds and the Lodge, \$131,955.42.

Forty-eight deaths occurred during the decade: William F. Boehmer, died March 26, 1922, served on many committees, took care of all the Degree paraphernalia for years, and held membership for 30 years; James G. Lowrey died April 16, 1922, a member for 56 years, having served as Noble Grand for the term beginning October 1, 1867, being Grand Lodge representative in 1880, 1881 and from 1895 to the time of his death, also serving as a member of the Grand Lodge Committee on Homes in 1910-11; Charles A. Ziebach died February 28, 1925, a member for 33 years, serving as treasurer from April 3, 1906, to October 4, 1922.

Jacob J. Kuebler died March 17, 1925, a member for 60 years; William Smith died October 6, 1925, a member for 59 years; Louis Weston died March 22, 1926, a member of the Board of Trustees from April 5, 1921, to his death; William F. Fausset died September 23, 1926, a member for 36 years; Charles A. Seltzer, John R. Mortimer, James S. Carpenter, William L. Owens, Edward Williams, James Pritchard, John S. Dewald, George H. Halberstadt, John F. Bushar, John G. Ulmer, Abraham

L. Eckert, Albert E. Shappell, John F. Shaw, Eber E. Simmons, Oscar P. Witman, Jeremiah J. Hermann.

John W. Lloyd, John M. Shindler, John Greenland, G. R. S. Corson, James W. Elliott, John L. Kanady, Archibald J. Faust, Edwin H. Miller, Robert C. Green, Jr., Theodore Lord, Daniel Donne, William Krause, Albert A. Seibert, Frederick Emhardt, James L. Kirkpatrick, Jacob S. Ulmer, Charles W. Rigg, James Heffner, Christian Kull, Jacob I. Saul, Frank L. Cooch. Robert A. Quin, John P. Grady, Frank C. L. Sands and Charles E. Emhardt.

The membership at the close of the decade was 197.

From the original 13 members and treasury of \$40, which constituted the Miners' Lodge No. 20, more than 100 years ago, it now has increased to more than 200 members, and has assets of more than \$82,000. Its gross income has increased from \$5,835, which marked the first decade, to \$199,925.80 at the close of the last decade. Its net income has increased from \$1,352.82 to \$29,967.23, and its expenditures for relief from \$3,250 to \$27,414.60.

Since the institution of the Lodge, the following served as Past Grands: George Dedrich, Andrew Sheridan, Stephen Taylor, Roger Clark, Stephen Rogers, James Penman, Thomas Dornan, Henry Jones, Charles H. Richards, James S. Wallace, John Bindley, Joseph Dusto, Benjamin Bannan, William Thompson, Enos Chichester, Christian F. Conrad, Joshua Crawshaw, George N. Downing, William Lewis, Washington Reifsnyder, John Sennet, Henry Collier, Robert Bamford, George Hoferkamp, David K. Klock. A. L. Boehmer, James R. Stout, Adolph Frantz, John Pollard, R. F. Potter, Isaac Severn, Robert C. Elliott, William Morgan, Julius Kurten, H. B. Smith, M. P. Walker, Jules Bohn, Hiram Parker, Jr., Daniel

Donne, William Cooper, William C. Fox, Fred Emhardt.

William Vietinghof, F. R. Pershing. B. W. Krimer, C. V. Archambault, A. L. Phillips, Theodore E. Miller, Zachariah Pugh, William F. Boehmer, William B. Shugars. John P. Grady, J. H. Heller, B. S. Cooper, George E. Williams, Charles A. A. Ziebach, H. W. Lavenburg, Fred Hatch, William F. Flail, William M. Fausset, Daniel E. Deibler, Christian Heisler, G. Elmer Knowles, Porter B. Dennis, J. C. Dewees. Charles K. Emhardt, Charles Kimmel, Lester F. Petrie, J. G. Chadwick, W. Gay Harper, Nelson Eckert, Philip W. Donne, John Espey, Samuel J. Potts, J. L. Coho, John Silver, William Cook, John Jones, Archibald Hodge, Benjamin Taylor, Mark Hadley, Jesse McElrath, John Tanner, Samuel Reed, Jacob R. Walton, John S. C. Martin, A. H. Tomlins, John Tregea, William J. McQuade, James J. Blakeslee, Charles Augue, James Kelly, Charles Van Horn, F. B. Kaercher, Daniel Kershner, Amos Wert, William J. Parker, Jacob Trough, J. A. M. Passmore.

Benneville Erdman, J. J. Cake, John T. Nicholas, George W. Dewald, F. D. Fernsler, Charles T. Palmer, George M. Smith, Thomas A. Jones, Philip Pyle, D. C. Freeman, E. J. Cadwell, R. B. Barrett, J. L. Chrisman, C. E. Downey. John R. Mortimer, H. S. Hoover, J. L. Kanady, H. P. Lauer, A. J. Pilgram, A. E. Reppard, William Short, B. S. Simonds, Thomas W. McKee, George F. Moyer, William S. Heap, G. T. Burd, J. I. Saul, Allen W. Sterner,

E. H. Miller, A. L. Eckert, Louis Weston, William G. Cooper, Adam J. Tucker, Walter W. Hagerty, John D. Furman, George J. Bickert, John H. Winn, Fred C. Emhardt. Charles C. Weber, G. R. S. Corson, Edwin H. Price, George H. Kaiser, Daniel O. Shnman, Chester A. Dove, Daniel M. Roberts, James McMullen, Charles F. Mann, Solomon Shindle, Timothy Divine, John Shaw, Benjamin Cook, Jacob Myers, Adam Eiler.

M. W. Clemens, Evan B. Evans, David Inman, Robert Adams, Nicholas Fox, Jeremiah Reed, Samuel Nugent, Peter Pugh, Henry Gable, William H. Hewes, David Richards, Edward Mendelssohn, Joseph Mucklaw, James Glenn, William Hill, Samuel T. Skeen, William Till, H. R. Edmonds, Solomon Hoover, J. G. Lowrey, Samuel Lilley, B. F. Patterson, John Findley, Robert S. Chrisman, Matthew Humes, Henry J. Rich, James Robertson, Charles F. Derr, J. E. Fredericks, W. L. Owens, E. C. Ruch, J. W. Conrad, John R. Stall, B. F. Hodgson, H. C. Kurten, David F. O'Brien, Joseph E. Morris, P. K. Filbert, G. B. Teasdale, W. H. Huntzinger, S. M. F. Glover, David J. Moyer, A. A. Seifert, Charles E. Alter, U. G. Siegfried, Charles E. Emhardt, Charles R. Batdorff, George W. Byerly, F. W. Bausum, Harry A. Skeen. Harry H. Grim, William S. Brobst, Arthur J. Womer, Thomas Meikrantz, Robert W. Brooks, Fred H. Steidle, J. J. Hermann, Arthur Dower, James W. Elliott, Edward R. Williams, U. H. Nuss, Guy N. Jones, Harry C. Kinzey and Samuel H. Sterner,

Jalappa Mothers Club Very Active Group

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* December 16, 1933)

The Jalappa Mothers' Club, a neighborhood community club, organized by Mrs. Harry Miller and a group of women of that neighborhood in 1920, has been responsible for many improvements in and about the Jalappa School, and also for many privileges that would otherwise have been denied the children of the neighborhood.

When the group organized, it was with the idea of securing a playground for the children and with this end in view, numerous meetings were held and members of the Parks Improvement Committee of City Council consulted with the result that the children of that neighborhood were given one of the finest equipped playgrounds in the city. They were originally known as the Playground Association but when the interest of the younger people waned, the Mothers' Club was formed.

The permission of the school board was secured to place the apparatus on the grounds surrounding the school house and with the aid of a fund appropriated by the park committee, the equipment was purchased. The first summer of the playground no trained supervisor was employed and Benj. Biltz, janitor of the building, supervised the children at play. The second and third years Mrs. John Hartstein took charge and further equipment was secured during the second year. On June 23rd, 1923, when the official opening of the playground for the summer was held, Miss Frances Sellers was in charge.

The good accomplished by this group of women is unlimited and the children have been afforded many

pleasures through their efforts. The tennis court behind the school house was prepared and equipped for the use of the children and adults of the neighborhood, a victrola, piano and then a radio were purchased for use in the Jalappa School; pre-school clinics are held each summer when the beginners are given a party by the members of the club and also given a physical examination; the club sponsors a Halllowe'en parade in the neighborhood each year, and for years until two years ago sent out baskets of provisions to poor families.

The club raises its money through social affairs, card parties, etc., with an opening festival each summer at the close of school when candies, baked foods, fancy work and novelties are sold to raise funds for the summer expenses and then a closing festival is held at the end of the summer when the children present a program which is a resume of their work of the summer and the members of the club again sell foods, candies, ice cream, etc.

Many children have been benefited individually by the club and have been fitted with glasses when their parents were unable to afford the same, have been fed three hot meals a week at school and now this year will be given such necessities that the orders from the welfare organizations do not supply.

Two years ago the club dividing into groups prepared meals in the homes of members living near the school, and served them to the children who were included in the poor children survey. On holidays, small

gifts are given the children and during their playground festivities and after parades, they are given small gifts.

The work of this group of women is appreciated not only by the children but by their parents, for they give unstintingly of their time and devote hours to their philanthropic work.

Mrs. Chas. Yaag is president of the club at present, with Mrs. Harry Ubil, vice president, Mrs. Edw. Motley serving as secretary, and Mrs. Jas. Cooper as treasurer. The original officers were: Pres., Mrs. Harry Miller; Secretary, Mrs. Edw. Motley, and Treasurer, Mrs. Jas. Cooper, who

was succeeded by Mrs. Wm. Schiele for a short time and then resumed her office. The average membership of the club is 21, but they have had a membership of 28.

The present membership of the club includes the following women: Mrs. Chas. Yaag, Mrs. Wm. Yaag, Mrs. Edw. Motley, Mrs. Jas. Cooper, Mrs. Laura Bell, Mrs. Fred Leibel, Mrs. John Klevenstein, Mrs. Frank Hale, Mrs. Frank Schrank, Mrs. William Brehony, Mrs. Harry Moser, Mrs. Wm. Roth, Mrs. Chas. Knell, Mrs. Leonard Schuettler, Mrs. Lucy Casale, Mrs. Harry Ubil, Mrs. Geo. Hartzel, Mrs. John Hartstein, Mrs. Wm. Umberger, Mrs. Geo. Moser and Mrs. Harry Rogers.



Ladies' Social Club Now 27 Years Old

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* December 16, 1933)

In December, 1906, the Ladies Social Club was organized in Pottsville and since that time has had a very active and interesting career.

From an organization consisting of nine members, the Ladies Social Club of Pottsville has grown to be one of over a hundred members within a space of twenty-seven years.

On a very blustery and snowy night in December of 1907, nine women met in a room in the Weber home on Minersville St., and organized the Ladies Social Club, the purpose of the organization being sociability and charity. The inclement weather kept many from the meeting who would otherwise have been numbered among the charter members and it was not long before the membership showed a decided increase.

The charter members were Miss Sylvia Ziebach, who was for some time a teacher at the Free Kindergarten at the Pottsville Mission, Mrs. Edw. Muensch, Mrs. Hoyt Haertter, Sr., Miss Catherine Powers, Mrs. Mary A. Smith, Mrs. Llewellyn Griffiths, Mrs. Bella Beckley, Mrs. Martha Shoemaker and Mrs. Edith Hodge. The officers who were elected at the first meeting were: Miss Ziebach, President; Mrs. Edw. Muensch, Vice Pres., and Miss Powers, Secy.

Since that time, the women have always taken a keen interest in the Club and as a result, it has been successful in all of its undertakings. They have become quite well known throughout the county for their

participation in all of the large parades and for the originality displayed in the costumes secured each year for use in the parades at home and in other towns. They rarely fail to return with a prize, even having gone as far as Harrisburg.

But, they are not satisfied with having their club provide only a good time for the members. They also take a great pride in the charity work which they are able to do among the members who may have met with misfortune and will appreciate a helping hand.

The present president, Mrs. Hoyt Haertter, has been President for the past twenty-one years and has performed her duties faithfully. When she wished to resign some time ago, the members unanimously declined to accept her resignation and she retained the office.

The meetings are held every second Thursday in the month in the P. O. S. of A. Hall. There is a social and entertainment committee which takes charge of the affairs of each meeting and a splendid program is always assured.

Two pleasure trips are enjoyed by the members every year, a bus being hired for the occasion and among the places which they have visited is Atlantic City.

At the present time there are one hundred and ten members. The officers at present are: Mrs. Haertter, Sr., Pres.; Vice Pres., Mrs. Martha Dimmerling; Treas., Miss Minnie Jordan; Secy., Mrs. Florence Conrad; Pianist, Mrs. Carrie Day; Color Bearers, Mrs. Clara Buck and Mrs. Sarah Fineauer; Publicity, Mrs. Edith Hodge.

Pottsville's Biggest Fire 19 Years Ago

(Form "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* December 18, 1933)

"Tearing down and clearing up, with streams of water still playing on the smoking ruins, is the scene which marks the site of Thursday's million-dollar fire, in the heart of the Pottsville business district."

This paragraph, taken from the "Republican" of Dec. 18, 1914, refers to the disastrous fire which had occurred on the previous date, Dec. 17th.

Sunday, Dec. 17, 1914, marked the 19th anniversary of what will up to the present time go down in the history of Pottsville as its most spectacular and extensive fire, a million dollar conflagration which starting in the early morning hours, gave the city its first three alarm blaze, called all of the apparatus of the city and surrounding towns into service and before it was brought under control, completely destroyed or ruined the entire city block extending along the western side of Centre St., from Mahantongo and crossing Norwegian St. to the north and to Second Street on the west. The southern side of Mahantongo St. was untouched.

Despite the destructiveness of the blaze which leveled almost a score of the prominent buildings of the business section and threw about 300 people out of work, the same area viewed today shows the burned structures replaced by buildings worth double the value of those destroyed in the blaze and the city, as a consequence of the resultant controversy over the water supply, better protected against a repetition of

the disaster than any city of its size in the state.

With almost a score of years passing since the fire, recent disclosures by men who were in the thick of the controversy indicate that the wiping out of the block was wholly attributable to the failure of the water supply at a critical moment.

City Councilman-elect James F. Lynaugh, who was chief of the fire department at the time of the fire, charged within a few hours after the blaze had been brought under control that between eight and twelve lines of hose thrown around the Ferguson building, occupied by the Woolworth store, where the fire was discovered, had suddenly gone dead at a time when the fire had been driven back and was practically under control.

This allegation resulted in an investigation by the underwriters association following which the entire system of supplying water to the fire mains in the business section was changed, although no direct blame for the failure of the water supply was ever placed.

However, the theory most accepted is that the trouble occurred at the East Side basin of the Water company, where the explanation twenty years after the fire, says a perforated plate over the intake to the city mains became clogged and shut off the supply from the basin, with the result that until the water from the huge Wolfe Creek reservoir was turned directly into the mains at Minersville and Centre Sts. the fire department was without an adequate supply.

Former Chief of Police James B. Moyer, then an officer of the police force discovered the fire at 3:18 o'clock, the morning being marked by almost zero weather.

The blaze was located in the Ferguson building, in the vicinity of the stairway leading to the second floor. Fire Chief Lynaugh, together with members of the companies which responded to the alarm were in this section and had driven the fire back to a point where it was to all intents and purposes isolated when suddenly the water supply failed. Thinking that a plug had inadvertently been shut off, word was sent out to have it turned on, but it developed that the supply had failed in the mains. A few minutes later for the first time in the history of the department, the firemen were ordered to "back out" and within a short period the flames were rolling through the structure and alarm after alarm was sent in, the "bull whistle" blasts being augmented by the ringing of alarm bells located at that time at several of the engine houses.

The flames spread with astonishing rapidity and the strongest walls of the business block crumbled under the terrific heat, and it was but a short time until calls for aid were sent to the surrounding towns, with the result that Saint Clair, Port Carbon, Palo Alto and Schuylkill Haven sent every available piece of apparatus and hose supply to the city.

The fire was not definitely under control until four hours after it was discovered and a check up the following day of the losses, by "Republican" attaches with the city assessments taken as the basis for property losses determined that the total reached the enormous figure of \$700,000, made up principally of buildings

and stock by the fifteen firms and business houses in the area. Tenants showed a loss of over \$15,000 while minor business firms showed a similar loss. Ten attorneys suffered the loss of their libraries in the blaze.

On the Centre St. side the loss included the J. Miehle and Son Department store, building and stock, located directly on the corner of Centre and Norwegian Sts., \$200,000; The Philip Brenneman building, occupied by the Britton-Hoffman furniture store, building and stock, \$90,000; The P. J. Ferguson building occupied by the Woolworth Co., loss \$40,000; W. S. Cowen, building and drug store, loss \$25,000; C. W. Mortimer, haberdashery, building and stock, \$25,000; Pennsylvania Bank, building and fixtures, \$40,000; E. Fisher, building and Jewelry store, \$30,000; Harry Little, cafe, \$4,000.

At the corner of Centre and Mahantongo Sts., the newly erected Union Safe Deposit Bank was a bulwark against the flames and although subjected to intense heat from all sides was practically undamaged.

Swinging around the corner to the Mahantongo St. side of the block the list of losses showed: Academy of Music, noted playhouse and owned by the Union Hall Asso., loss \$170,000; J. J. Lagus Restaurant, partially damaged, \$1,500.

The three story brick structure occupied by the Geo. J. Schott store at the corner of Mahantongo and Second streets was intact but going north on Second St. the T. F. Brennan, Mrs. E. E. Rabenau and Matthews residences were badly damaged. The Brennan loss was fixed at \$10,000 while that of the Rabenau family was \$9,000. The Matthews residence, a frame structure, was completely destroyed, with a loss of \$3,500.

The postoffice across the street was on fire on a number of occasions and arrangements had been completed to remove the mails and the records of the Revenue office but this proved unnecessary. The loss to the postoffice was slight.

The fire crossed Norwegian St., getting a foothold in the F. P. Mortimer store and three newly constructed business houses to the rear. The damage to the Mortimer department store was fixed at \$15,000 while a \$20,000 loss was experienced to the structure at the rear. Dr. E. L. Goodall's business office was damaged to the extent of \$7,000.

Among the minor losses experienced were the following: F. B. P. Spehrley, painter and paper hanger in the Union Hall building, \$1,000; Harry Schablein, billiard parlor, same building, \$1,500; H. Larer, millinery store, same building, \$3,000; Mills Auto supply store, same building, \$1,500; P. J. Reif, taylor, same building, \$1,500; W. H. Mortimer, G. T. Burd, real estate agent, George Weiderhold, shoemaker, and the Kresge store to the north of the fire area suffered losses of \$1,000 or less.

The fire was finally halted in the Kresge store section of the block north of Norwegian St. when every available stream was thrown into this area to prevent this highly inflammable stock from giving the fire a second start.

At that time, fire companies were in service at every corner in the business section and for a block or more on both sides; the St. Clair steamer, covered with ice working at the Y. M. C. A. corner after one of the Pottsville engines had broken down.

Four lodges, the Knights of the Golden Eagle, Order of Independent Americans, the Woodmen and the Masonic fraternity, lost all their re-

cords and equipment when the buildings in which their meeting rooms were located burned.

Attorneys R. S. Bashore, Enterline, C. A. Whitehouse, W. L. Kramer, J. J. Brown, H. H. Moyer, G. W. Ryon, James B. Reilly suffered losses of their law libraries ranging from \$500 to \$2,500, as did J. P. Ryon and Mine Inspector M. J. Brennan. Looking north from the "Republican" Office a few hours after the fire started, the Court House was in plain sight as a result of the collapse of every wall that had previously obstructed the view northward. The front walls of the Academy of Music were still standing, as was a portion of the Miehle wall on Norwegian St., and the Pennsylvania Bank, but the balance were a mass of debris. Second St. was blocked, while the debris on Norwegian was a story high. Ice covered everything, and in the zero weather, the section was a very desolate sight.

Firemen, in commenting upon the extraordinary spread of the flames, said that the fire spread with lightning like rapidity, and that the stone walls of the building turned to dust under the terrific heat. On the Centre St. side, the fire at times seemed to roll across the street, and show windows were cracked and broken by the heat. On Mahantongo St., the back draft of the fire was felt with full intensity. Plate glass windows in the Union Hall property were blown into the street, and the fire at times seemed to touch the "Republican" Building, across the street, and the Dr. O'Hara property on the corner.

Despite the ferocity of the blaze, and the fact that all electric power had to be cut off to protect the firemen, resulting in the entry of unlighted buildings, none was seriously hurt, although Assistant Fire Chief

John Schoeneman was taken to his home as a result of burns of the face sustained when he was struck by a flying ember.

The wind at the start of the fire was blowing directly south, and the flying brands seemed to cloud the skies. Palo Alto residents, the following morning, found pieces of building timbers still burning in their yards and on the roofs.

That no one was seriously injured was one of the remarkable facts surrounding the conflagration, as everything combined to make the battle a dangerous one. Morris Werner, of 1812 W. Norwegian St., a light company employe, had the closest call when he was caught in a set of live wires while working on a pole at Norwegian St. Prompt action on the part of Dr. J. J. Moore, who happened to come along, saved him from serious consequences.

Of the properties destroyed, the Union Hall, is the only major property that was not replaced.

There was some talk of the construction of another theatre, but the Union Hall Asso. finally closed its books. The lot is now owned by the J. H. Zerbey Estate, and occupied by the Excelsior Oil Company, as a parking station, and represents one of the largest plots of its type in the city.

The Safe Deposit Bank and the Masonic Buildings were erected on the site of the Miehle Store, after numerous propositions to widen W. Norwegian St. had been advanced and discussed, without any major movement in this respect being made.

The Hollywood Theatre, the Miller and Miller Building and the reconstructed Cowen structure soon closed the major gaps in the square, and a series of modern fronts and business houses resulted from the building boom that followed closely upon the heels of the fire, until today the

block is not only completely modernized, but by far more valuable than at the time of the fire.

The Little Cafe, the Fisher Jewelry Store and the Mortimer Store were among the business houses that did not resume, while the Britton-Hoffman firm moved to another location. The Miehle business also died with the fire, and was the largest of the group to pass out of existence.

The fire occurred on a Thursday, and the week-end days were marked by visitors to the city from every section of the county. The debris on the streets hampered trolley service, but the cars ran to the lower end of Centre St., the point where the electric feeders were cut out, and huge crowds thronged the streets.

The lighting conditions were such, however, in the business district that little or nothing could be seen at night and twenty-five police officers and patrolmen kept guard over the ruins.

During the height of the blaze, the firemen were supplied with coffee and sandwiches by the various women's organizations of the city and private groups, while the Salvation Army was kept busy supplying food from its quarters.

The newspapers, in summing up the many items regarding the blaze, pointed out that the fire was the first time the St. Clair company had its steamer out of town in twenty years. The La France engine of that company worked almost 12 hours straight at the Y. M. C. A. nearly matching its feat of a few years previous at the Herbine fire.

The entire Minersville department was ready to come to Pottsville but in the excitement of calling the out of town companies someone overlooked that town and the companies were not called out.

Even pickpockets were in the crowds, according to the reports, the

lighting being extremely poor after the fire died down. Norwegian Street was not cleared until the afternoon of Saturday for general traffic.

One of the interesting items in regard to the blaze was the fact that almost all of the safes in the various buildings were opened with little or no trouble after they had cooled.

Officials of the Pennsylvania National Bank, got the vault open although experts had been summoned. The bank opened almost immediately after the ruins had cooled sufficiently, E. M. Burgan, a member of the bank force, and Chief Lynaugh crawling over the vault to determine its condition.

The utility supplies to the "Republican" were cut off for several hours but the newspaper went to press just the same despite the fact that gas and electricity lines were either wrecked or shut off. Electricity was finally run to the newspaper over a private line of the P. & R. C. & I. company from its power plant on Coal St., the connection being made at Second and Mahantongo. Since that time, similar service was made on a number of occasions to overcome utility tie ups.

One resident of Palo Alto brought to the "Republican" a law book which had been blown into his yard, partially burned.

Older residents reported a blaze covering almost as great an extent in the early fifties when a block bounded by Centre and Railroad and in the vicinity of Arch St. burned.

In November of 1883, the Pottsville companies went to Shenandoah to aid in extinguishing a fire which ravaged a big portion of that town but, though it was equally as ex-

tensive the loss was not as great, according to reports. Other major fires culled from the records included the Town Hall fire of 1875, the Centennial Hall fire of 1876, and the Kopitsch fire of 1874.

Although the fire ruins were cleaned up and contracts and property deals consummated in short order to bring about the rejuvenation of the square the controversy over the water supply waxed hot for several years.

Shortly after the blaze Atty. J. W. Moyer, recently deceased, was retained to take up the matter of legal action against the Water Company but nothing ever materialized.

The Underwriters Association, however, came into the city and made a number of surveys, the work finally culminating in a series of reports which brought about the realignment of most of the fire fighting lines in the central part of the city.

New mains were installed and plugs were changed, while reservoir requirements were carefully checked with the result that a few years ago in one of the most exhaustive tests made of the efficiency of the department every plug in the central part of the city was turned on when a secret run was made and gauges clamped on every hydrant.

The result demonstrated that it was almost impossible to drain the water in sufficient quantity to affect ordinary fire fighting demands and even conflagration requirements.

The result has been that out of the fire grew one of the best arranged water supplies of any city in the state for fire purposes and from a property standpoint a block that is in every way the most modern of the city.

Tumbling Run Once Popular Resort

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper"*, December 19-20, 1933)

"An agreement was placed on record at the office of Recorder Folmer this afternoon, entered into between C. H. Woltjen and W. E. Harrington to sell the Tumbling Run baseball ground to the latter for the sum of \$12,500. It is understood that Mr. Harrington is buying the property not as an individual, but in the interests of the Pottsville Traction Co. a branch of the Eastern Railways Co. of which he is the vice-president."

This excerpt, taken from the "Republican" of Dec. 18, 1907, referred to the time when Tumbling Run was a flourishing pleasure park.

For a period of thirty years, Schuylkill county's playground was to be found in the Tumbling Run Valley, where two immense storage dams of the Silver Creek Water Co., a subsidiary of the Phila. and Reading Coal and Iron Co. and the successor to the Schuylkill Navigation Company, supplied the setting for one of the most beautiful and attractive summer resorts in the state.

Easily reached by a double track system of the Pottsville Union Traction Company, Tumbling Run in the height of its career was visited by over a million people during the season which began on Memorial day of each year and was in full operation until Labor Day.

Almost a hundred of the prominent residents of Pottsville and various social clubs maintained permanent and semi-permanent quarters on the site of the upper dam during the summer and, when the skating season was at its best during the winter months, the dams

were the scene of nightly ice carnivals that rivalled anything of a like kind before or since the days between 1890 and 1920, the starting and finishing dates of one of the most widely known public playgrounds in the state.

With a woodland setting that took one from the wear and tear of city life, to the cooling breezes of the mountain woodlands within a few minutes, the Tumbling Run park was the Mecca for the residents of all of the lower section of the county over the week-ends, while there was hardly a day in the summer months that thousands of people could not be found at the popular resort.

The resort reached the height of its popularity in the nineties and was operated in full swing until 1912 when a mandatory order on the part of the Coal and Iron Co. closed the resort and caused the abandonment of the boat houses on the plea that the dams were necessary for the maintenance of the water supply of the region and that no pollution of the water shed would be allowed.

The removal of all of the structures and the trolley road followed and today a reforestation program has covered the site of what was once one of the finest resorts in the region with a ten year growth of evergreens.

Tumbling Run or rather Silver Creek, was one of the earliest sources of water power and supply in the anthracite region. As early as 1800, sawmills had been erected just east of Mt. Carbon and the growth of

the coal trade by 1833 had found the Schuylkill Navigation company using reservoirs in the valley to supply water to the Schuylkill canal. These were of a fairly substantial type but the annual freshets played havoc with the dams and locks on several occasions and it was not until many years later that the massive breasts now impounding the water in the two reservoirs were built.

Tumbling Run, built at first for commercial purposes, obtained its chief fame in amusement and recreation lanes, despite the fact that the upper or second dam was the only one used for this purpose.

The operation of the trolley road in August 1891 marked the beginning of an era of prosperity for the resort that reached its peak between 1900 and 1912 and if in existence today would unquestionably be one of the show grounds of Pennsylvania, now that the improved highways have made the touring of the state a matter of hours instead of days.

At the height of its fame, Tumbling Run had about 65 boat houses ranged in a huge semi-circle along the northern and eastern beach of the upper dam while across the body of water to the south was another group of boat houses arranged in what was familiarly known as the "cove." At that time, in addition to the boat houses a series of major amusement structures consisting of a massive hotel, a theatre, a dance pavilion, a carousel, amusement hall, skating rink, and scenic railway were to be found on the grounds. To the rear of the hotel, one of the finest baseball parks in the section was located on the brow of the hill and was the Mecca for thousands who attended games played by semi-professional and later Atlantic League teams.

On the dam or rather the lake, a steamboat with a capacity of twenty

five persons, chugged its way about at a cost of five cents for a trip around the beaches.

Some of the best musical organizations of the state gave weekly concerts from an open air pavilion while in the theatre, regular vaudeville circuits were maintained.

The trolley lines took their thousands right to the heart of the park while the roads and by-paths surrounding the beaches were traversed by thousands who trod through a veritable fairyland of wooded areas.

Swimming was one of the major recreations and although the water in the major depths reached 85 to 90 feet at flood levels, the depths were so gradual in the majority of spots about the dam that it was a paradise for children.

Some idea of the immense throngs that visited the resort, can be obtained from the statement of the Traction Co. for 1908 which showed that between June 1st and Sept. 7th of that year 800,000 people had visited the park while there had been 75,000 admissions to the theatre. This was an average of almost 10,000 persons per day and it was a common event for the week ends to be marked by a traffic of from 50,000 to 60,000 people.

Trolley cars were run from Pottsville and the surrounding towns in ten minute periods and oftentimes from three to four cars left on a trip. The Palo Alto "Y", the switching point for the Tumbling Run division was one of the busiest railroading spots in the region and it took the keenest type of railroad work to keep the divisions operating under "heavy load" requirements.

Records of the Silver Creek Water Company at the height of the use of Tumbling Run as a pleasure resort showed over 65 leases to boat house owners in existence, the leases including some of the most

prominent residents of the Pottsville territory. Among those who had boat houses there were the following:

William B. Fegley, T. W. Swalm, D. H. Seibert, Haessler and Bowen, P. K. Filbert, Kaercher and Koch, E. R. King, Brennan and Seibert, Roehrig and Flynn, Louisa Hause, Knowlton and Smith, C. F. Lewis, J. J. Coonan and A. F. Curry, Nicholas Heblich, A. J. Derr, J. M. Harris, Lindom and Womrath, Frank Reese, Bausum, Moyer and Bocam, Turk and Royal, C. T. Mould, George W. Zeh, Schimpf and Bertram, Burd and Corey, Charles Blum, Samuel Hurst, James W. Hunter, J. J. Dailey and Thos. F. Dobbins, Mulhearn and Graney, B. I. Sheaffer, J. Miehle, J. R. Hoffman, John Williams and S. A. Thurlow, Hoeffler and Seltzer, A. H. Halberstadt, Joseph Woll, Seltzer and Wadlinger, W. O. Rettig and Jacob Blankenhorn, M. F. Moore, Herb and Aregood, Krause and Sterling, Chandler and Fernsler, C. D. Rushel, Knowles and Marks, Schalk and McDonnell, E. L. Sheaffer, George Zweibel, Hooks and Hess, B. J. Smith and W. J. Thompson, Lee Bros., Luther and Yuengling, J. W. Fox, John P. Stine, Mrs. M. R. Mortimer, John Buehler and George Smith, P. J. Joyce, S. C. Aregood, G. R. Weissinger, J. W. Conrad, John F. Whalen, Martin and Schertle, F. H. Wetter, J. C. Bright, W. L. Sheaffer, Beddall and Turk, Mrs. M. Lawrence, Fred L. Glenn and Falls and Powers.

Frank C. Reese, M. A. Young and H. G. Franklin had the ice privileges in the above list which showed the lessees in 1910.

At this time, the entire section was under the control of the P. & R. C. & I. and its subsidiaries.

The mountain road over which the Tumbling Run railway was built was first cleared in 1891 when the right

of way was secured from the Richards estate, H. Reichard, The Schuylkill Navigation Co. and C. H. Woltjen. The new railway which was built by Contractor William McAdams started from the power house in Palo Alto and ran west along Bacon St. to a point known as the "White Rock", where the road swung off the main road and was built along the mountain side. The work started in May and on July 21st, L. W. Weissinger and Charles Loeser secured the title to about 18 acres of land including the bluff or knoll at the head of the dam.

The trolley road was formally opened on August 18th of that year and was operated for only an hour or so, the blowing out of a steam valve at the power house temporarily putting it out of service.

The newspapers carried little regarding the resort following the opening of the trolley road until March 1895 when Weissinger, owner of the Tumbling Run hotel and the grounds surrounding it sold to a syndicate of capitalists from Phila., owners of the Schuylkill Electric Railway Co. The price paid was kept a secret but the "Republican" announced that the price asked had been \$35,000.

Seven years later, R. E. Lee, Pottsville business man acquired seven acres additional from Mr. Weissinger together with the amusements for a price said to have been \$40,000 or better.

That June, the opening of Tumbling Run was heralded with a number of improvements. Lights had been placed along the walks and driveways, the bathing facilities had been improved and the pavilion was remodeled while walks had been improved and steps built from the main highway to the upper paths.

In 1904, Mr. Lee resigned as manager, and Joseph Hoellman, Phila.,

was elected. C. P. Krieg was succeeded by John Pittock as president, W. C. Pollock was named treasurer, and the directors were Messrs. Lee, Krieg, Pollock, Hoellman and Pittock. The meeting was held in Phila.

In July, 1906, W. S. Pugh was reported laying out baseball grounds, and in December of the following year, C. H. Woltjen transferred to W. E. Harrington, head of the Traction Company, the baseball grounds for \$12,500.

Two years later the resort was in full swing, with the bathing and swimming facilities one of the chief attractions. In May, of that year, the "Republican" carried the following item:

"Commodore A. C. Reichardt has completed the recruiting of the life saving corps, which is to be located at Tumbling Run, and this afternoon forwarded the necessary papers to New York for enlistment blanks to be filled out and commissions forwarded to the organization and its officers.

H. C. Reichardt will be the chief of the local corps with the rank of Commodore; Dr. W. C. Hoefler, Capt.; J. H. Swaving, Lieutenant and surgeon; J. W. Conrad, quartermaster; Lamar Scott, boatswain. The crews are composed of the following:

Crew No. 1.—Capt. W. C. Hoefler, John Duby, John Walker, Lewis Blankenhorn, H. C. Halberstadt, R. E. Coogan, Clyde Allan, W. L. Allan.

Crew No. 2.—First Lieut. P. L. Knowlton, Theodore Madison, J. E. Derr, Fred Hause, F. H. Wetter.

Crew No. 3.—Sec. Lieut. J. W. Eisenhuth, John Daley, William Pyle, Harry Devald, S. C. Taylor.

Crew No. 4.—Prof. J. F. Murray, Chas. Hoffman, Frank Candee, John Olsen, Allan Steele."

On March 6, 1907 a new theatre was started and a 60-foot addition to the length of the dancing and roller skating pavilion was begun. There were to be many other improvements

made which would make the park more attractive to the summer visitors.

Plans had already been made in January of that year for changing the ball park and improving it, this to be finished by April 1st. Many hot contests were promised for the summer.

In 1908, before the summer season opened, the Tumbling Run Park Association made extensive changes at the hotel. W. H. Kline was placed in charge of the cuisine, the barroom was torn out and a large dining room was built to accommodate parties of large proportions. The liquor license had been abolished in 1917 and no intoxicating liquor was allowed so many visitors made the hotel their headquarters for the entire summer.

In April of that year, the Trolley men organized an amateur baseball league to play at the Run. On May 8, 1908. E. Edwin Phipps was appointed superintendent of the Tumbling Run Park by the Traction Co., upon the resignation of Lloyd Neal. On May 25th, 1908 the Run was opened for the season. Many new features were introduced. In the theatre, Keith and Proctor Circuit vaudeville was shown and a new free show of illustrated songs and pictures was introduced at the water's edge and a regular community gathering and sing took place each evening.

August 5, 1908, the Pottsville Union Traction Co. notified all boathouse owners that they would light all houses free of charge if they had the buildings wired, but in October of that year, an order was issued by the P. & R. C. & I. that no cooking would be allowed in the boathouses and that no parties would be allowed. On Sept. 9th, 1908, Supt. Crane of the Traction Co., reported that 800,000 people had visited the park between June 1st and Sept. 7th, and that there had been 75,000 paid admissions at the theatre.

During the summer of 1908, one of the big attractions was the camp of the Mountain Springs Rifle Club of 56 men with a 21 piece band. They came from Ephrata and Lancaster.

During the next few years, the Run continued to be the Mecca for pleasure lovers. The cool grove was almost always filled with picnickers and many of the churches held their picnics there.

On July 10, 1912, the order was issued by the P. & R. C. & I. which marked the beginning of the end for this popular resort. Orders were issued that no more swimming would be allowed. There had been a severe shortage of water and some of the water from the two dams had been used to supply some of the collieries. The P. & R. C. & I. gave no reason for the order but it was said that the reason was because they wished to have the water in readiness for use for domestic purposes.

On Sept. 4, 1913, the P. & R. C. & I. Land Department issued an order that all boathouses were to be closed and the following June, 1914, when boathouse owners asked what their status was, they were informed that all boathouse owners were then considered trespassers. The only amusements allowed were those which were not near the water. This condition continued for several years and on May 15th, 1917, the P. & R. C. & I. refused to renew the lease of the East Penn for the ground on which the tracks were built. Naturally, when no trolleys were allowed to run to the park and take the picknickers there, the amusements could not continue in business.

Although a number of attempts were made to have the boathouses used and to have the swimming privileges restored, the efforts were futile and many of the boathouse owners tore down their places and others transferred them to Marlin

which had since opened or sold them for use at other summer resorts.

In August, 1920, the Reading Co. cut down a large number of trees along the Tumbling Run Valley in Manheim, Blythe and Walker Townships on the property owned by the Silver Creek Water Co., which was owned by the Reading. This aroused the indignation of the citizens for there were very beautiful old trees in the Valley.

It was not long after that in the year 1922 to be exact, that the work of reforestation was started in earnest and thousands of black walnut trees were planted, to be followed later by evergreens which now cover the territory on all sides.

In connection with the history of Tumbling Run, it might not be amiss to tell about the 1850 flood when the breast of the Lower Dam gave way.

On the first of September, 1850, the rain started to come down in torrents, almost in the proportions of a cloudburst. It continued to rain all day Sunday and by Monday the streams and dams in the region were filled to capacity and the canal was also filled to overflowing. On Monday, it was seen that the two Tumbling Run dams, which were used as feeders for the Schuylkill Canal, were in danger of bursting. A curious crowd gathered at Mt. Carbon to watch the happenings. At nine o'clock in the morning the water went over the bank and in a few moments the breast of the Lower Dam gave away. It was not many minutes before eight houses in the Mt. Carbon section and the embankments of the canal and the Schuylkill Valley Railroad for a distance of fifty yards were entirely swept away.

All the houses below the Mt. Carbon Hotel were flooded, the water reaching to the second stories while

the railroad below the depot was entirely submerged. The county bridge connecting Mt. Carbon and the Turnpike and the heavy iron railroad bridge were washed away like so many matches and the old Navigation warehouse was badly damaged.

The damage on the Canal was not great from the Seven Stars Hotel to below Orwigsburg. At Sch. Haven, the Reading Co. bridge was crippled as was also the Sch. Navigation Co.'s Railroad bridge to Dundas Landing; 3000 tons of coal were washed from the landings into the dock.

When the breast at the Lower Dam at Tumbling Run gave away, it is estimated that the water was fully 50 feet high, while in ordinary times, the water at the breast averaged 30 feet in depth.

But, although there was a heavy property loss in the Mt. Carbon region from the bursting of the dam, there were still more serious conditions in other parts of the county where the heavy rain had succeeded in filling the rivers.

It was Tamaqua that received the most severe blow. The flood conditions reached there at four o'clock in the morning. One part of the town of Tamaqua was located on a flat in the Valley of the Little Schuylkill River and this section was swept clear of every building. As the people were in bed asleep when the river overflowed, they did not know of the danger until it was too late to save themselves. When the flood had subsided, 36 bodies were discovered.

The dead were as follows: Mrs. Thos. Foster, two daughters and a son; Mrs. Edmunds, a son and a daughter and two grandchildren; Mrs. David Jones and child; Mrs. Gresing and child; Geo. Welsh, a son and two daughters; Mrs. Eltringham, two daughters and two sons; Mrs. Herron and four children; Catherine

Williams, Mary McCartney, of Beaver Meadows; a girl and four daughters of Daniel Oxrider and Rev. P. Z. Oberfelt, pastor of the German Lutheran Congregation and Miss Mary Williams.

Coming down the line, there was little damage done at Middleport but at Pt. Carbon, the entire lower part of the town was submerged while the Tobias Wintersteen foundry and machine shop was damaged to the extent of \$5,000. The office connected with the factory and machine shop of Samuel Sillyman was carried off, as was the safe containing many valuable papers.

The Lock House of the Schuylkill Navigation Co., opposite Young's Landing was carried away when a boat was passing through.

The county bridges over the Little Schuylkill at Ringgold, Weaver's Mill and Schall's Forge were of no use, being carried miles down the stream.

The telegraph was out of commission until Sept. 4th and until Sept. 5th, no mail at all was received. The Little Schuylkill Railroad was unable to operate for the remainder of the season.

Schall's Forge, two miles above Port Clinton, was badly damaged, dwellings, tenant houses were carried away and fourteen lives were lost there, including Michael Hartman, miller, his wife and eight children; Wm. Breisch, his wife and two children. At Leesport, the Reese family, fourteen in number, were drowned.

The Blue Mt. dam went out also and 900 feet of the railroad along the Blue Mountain was washed away.

Two bridges over the Schuylkill opposite Furnace Island were carried off as were all the canal boats. Between Pottsville and Sch. Haven the canal embankments were wrecked

and the toll gate, a mile below Mt. Carbon, was almost entirely destroyed as well as the dwelling below it, known as Fraileysville Hotel kept by Benj. Kline. This was lifted from its foundation.

A mile down the valley the home, barn and sawmill of Mrs. Mary Min-

nich was taken off with the flood and the family barely escaped with their lives.

Probably the nearest approach to flood conditions like the 1850 flood was this past summer, August, 1933, when there were serious floods all through the East.



First Electric Trolley Here In 1890

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* December 21-26, 1933)

Forty-three years ago this week, memorable events took place in the history of Pottsville for it was during this time that the new Schuylkill Electric Railway came into operation and the horse-cars became history as far as the town was concerned.

The "Republican" during this entire week contained items telling about the progress which was being made with the preliminary trials.

In the newspaper of Dec. 19th, 1890, the following news item told of the first car leaving the barn. The item said:—

"At 9 o'clock last evening the Schuylkill Electric Railway Company's immense dynamo generated current properly, and at 10:10 the current was turned into the service wires by J. H. Zerbey; at 10:30 the first car left the barn at 12th & Russel streets, and with minor irregularities made the run down to Union and Centre streets, and back to the car-barn. Although so late at night, the novelty attracted great attention. Chas. R. Eberle, of the United Electric Equipment Company, of Phila., who are the general contractors for the entire outfit, personally superintended the tuning of the initial car. Mr. Clark, the electrician, representing the Short Co., sub-contractors for the electrical apparatus, handled the motor and brake on the car, whilst Lineman McGuire of the Railway Co., and Scott, of the Edison, managed the trolley. Chas. Swan, who has been chosen superintendent and electrician of the Railway Company, managed the engine and dynamo at the power house. Gen. Sigfried supervised all the preliminary, and running work and gave vent to his enthusiasm by ringing the car-bell. W. D. Pollard, of the

People's Co., was an active assistant and pleased participant. Others on the car were John Gable, guest of Contractor Eberle. Reno Sigfried, John Beck, Samuel Jenkins, Lew Hawley, R. A. Zerbey, H. Leam, P. Knowlton, George Dentzer, George Rose, whilst a number of citizens jumped on and rode for a short distance.

"Supt. R. C. Kear, of the Edison Co., greatly assisted in getting the power house machinery in working order.

"A successful trip was made to Yorkville this afternoon, by the Electric Car. In coming down Market street, a little trouble was experienced by the dirt on the tracks."

It was on the afternoon of Dec. 22nd, that the projectors of the road and the stockholders made their first tour of inspection and on Dec. 23rd, 1890, the formal opening of the line took place.

On the occasion of the 33rd anniversary of the overhead trolley car, which really got its start as a commercial enterprise in Richmond, Va., on May 4th, 1888, the late J. H. Zerbey, editor of the J. H. Zerbey Newspapers Inc., and one of the original incorporators of the company, was requested by Manager Clyde A. Hall of the East Penn to review the early history of the Schuylkill Electric Railways in Pottsville and his story, written at the time, is used as the permanent historical record of this company in which he took such a great pride.

It was Mr. Zerbey's intention to write the history of the early days of the company for the History series, and since he passed away in April, 1933, without completing this

task, his reminiscences of the introduction of the electric trolley into Pottsville, as written in connection with the 33rd anniversary of the trolley and published in the "Republican" is taken as a basis for this historical sketch, with such parenthetical explanations as time may have made necessary in the lapse of twelve years since this article was written.

The following article is taken from the "Republican" of May 4th, 1921:—

"The Electric Street Railway charter for Pottsville was issued on Oct. 5, 1889 from the State Department at Harrisburg to be called the Schuylkill Electric Railway Co., of Pottsville, Pa.

"The original incorporators were J. H. Zerbey, of the 'Pottsville Republican', Burd S. Patterson, attorney, and one of the originators of the Schuylkill Trust Co.; General J. K. Sigfried, coal operator; S. A. Losch, State Senator; John F. Zerbey, Cashier of the Government National Bank.

"The originators of the company which secured the charter, for officers selected Mr. Patterson as president, Gen. Sigfried as vice president, John F. Zerbey as treasurer, and J. H. Zerbey as secretary. The charter provided for a capitalization of \$50,000, and enumerated routes covering the principal streets of town, including Centre and Market Sts., then partially occupied by the People's Railway horse-car line, which had begun operation in 1872, but which had dwindled down to the operation of a single car between Centre and Union, and 12th St. station.

"Mr. Patterson drew up the necessary papers as to route, charter and application. Immediately thereafter, application was made to borough council for permission to oc-

cupy the streets named in the charter and after many vexatious delays by that body, an ordinance was passed on March 4th, 1890. Peter Pugh was then President of Council and Daniel L. Krebs, the town clerk. Council restricted the time allowed for the commencement of the work to six months from the passage of the ordinance.

"Pending the consummation of certain plans the project was let lie dormant insofar as the general public was concerned; but quietly, very important work was being accomplished and on July 29th, 1890, an arrangement was made with the People's Railway Company for the use of all their street car lines and privileges east of their depot at 12th and Russel Sts.

"After due consideration and inspection of plants elsewhere, a contract was made with Chadbourne, Hazleton & Co. and the United Electric Equipment Company, of Phila., for the entire construction and equipment of the road.

"In order to get some part of the new company's routes quickly in operation, it was decided to put up the permanent overhead trolley construction along the horse car route, and to use the 'strap rail wooden sill' railroad tracks temporarily in the heart of Pottsville.

"To get immediate electric current, arrangements were made with the Edison Company then located on Logan St. where the Hippodrome now stands, where the new Electric Street Railway Company placed their own dynamo supplied with the power from the Edison Plant.

"Meanwhile the arduous work of securing franchises to the streets, and property holders' consent to the placing of the poles, was prosecuted with vigor. The securing of franchises was hampered by the local newspapers, which bitterly opposed

the project because the 'Republican' was back of it, so that the eventual starting of the railway was a big victory for the 'Republican' as well as the business men who were associated in the enterprise.

"On Aug. 19th, 1890, the first work of construction was commenced by the erection of necessary poles, the first holes being dug at Centre and Union Sts.

"On Sept. 25th, 1890, ground was broken on Market St., west of 12th for the necessary new rail work.

"The sale of stock was remarkably successful, and the shares were mostly taken by local people who were anxious to participate in the movement that was to reinvigorate Pottsville which had been in a terrible slump for some years. Quickly after the securing of the charter and the taking in of the new stockholders the Schuylkill Electric Railway officers were President, J. K. Sigfried; Vice President, Jesse Newlin, former county superintendent of schools; Treasurer, John F. Zerbey, Government National Bank; Secretary, J. H. Zerbey; Attorneys, A. W. Schalek and Judge T. H. Walker. These gentlemen also composed the board of directors. and, from time to time, were most largely assisted by other directors in the persons of Fred G. Yuengling, head of the Yuengling enterprises; J. W. Beecher, wholesale lumber dealer; L. B. Walker, attorney; D. H. Seibert, cashier, and afterwards President of the Pennsylvania National Bank, and father of Dr. A. A. Seibert; Joseph H. Fisher, capitalist; Robert Allison, Port Carbon Iron Works. Later on Lewis Grant, R. C. Luther and August Knecht were among the directors.

Of the originators, the following are deceased: Gen. Sigfried, Jesse Newlin, A. W. Schalek, Judge T. H. Walker, L. B. Walker, F. G. Yuengling, D. H. Seibert, J. H. Fisher, S. A.

Losch, Robert Allison. Those surviving are: J. H. Zerbey, John F. Zerbey, retired; Burd S. Patterson, secretary Historical Society of Pittsburgh; J. W. Beecher, Pottsville; August Knecht, Pottsville. W. D. Pollard, general manager of the People's Railway Co., controlling the old horse car line, and now president of the Safe Deposit Bank, who looked after the interests of the leased line, is still living and in splendid good health, as is also his sister, Miss Annie Pollard, who was his assistant in the early days when there were necessarily many consultations by those preparing 'the work of the new electric company with those controlling the old company.'

(Since this writing in 1921, J. H. Zerbey, John F. Zerbey, Burd S. Patterson, August Knecht and W. D. Pollard have died and, of those mentioned above, there remain only J. W. Beecher and Miss Annie Pollard.)

"The old Pottsville Street Railway Company was started in 1872 and operated cars between Mt. Carbon and Fishbach and the People's Railway Station on 12th St. just beyond Market St. It was the early day conception principally of L. F. Whitney and Charles Baber, father of W. D. Baber. Harry W. Ponter was the first horse car conductor and George Tiley, the first driver. John Rickert, uncle of Van Dusen H. Rickert, and Thomas Powell, father of Eugene Powell of Market near Eighth, were among the early day horse car conductors.

"The People's Railway, originally controlled by local business people, was not a successful affair operating the horse car line in Pottsville and the steam car line from 12th St., Pottsville, to Minersville, and was later on absorbed by the Reading Company and the operation of horse cars abandoned in Pottsville except as a connection for the Minersville

steam car to the heart of town. It was this People's Railway lines street car franchises that the Schuylkill Electric Railway leased.

"The original consulting engineer who assisted so very largely in educating the new Trolley Co. people in their work was C. R. Eberle, of Philadelphia, who brought to Pottsville with him as lineman Charles Swan, who married Miss Greisel, sister of the letter carrier, and who afterwards acted as superintendent of the local trolley road and later assumed a responsible position at Atlantic City.

"Reno Sigfried and L. K. Hannum were the early day superintendents of the road. For the first year of its operation, J. H. Zerbey and J. K. Sigfried personally supervised the road and it was under their management that the road earned and declared its first and only dividend on its common stock in its history.

"To A. W. Schalck belongs the credit for very ably handling the early day intricate legal matters with Judge Walker accessible for consultation; (Mr. Patterson having removed from town shortly after the charter was secured). Later on W. C. Wilson became affiliated with the company and, as confidential assistant to Gen. Sigfried, Mr. Wilson was in close touch with the early day work.

"The immense Ball engine that furnished the power was given its first trial start at 11:40 a. m., Oct. 13, 1890. Channing Shumway turned on the first steam.

"On Dec. 18th, the dynamo at the power house was first started as previously noted.

"The next few days were spent in perfecting the machinery and training employes. On Monday afternoon, Dec. 22nd, the stockholders including the projectors of the road, made a tour of inspection.

"The following were the names of the gentlemen thus connected with the enterprise: J. H. Zerbey, B. S. Patterson, Genl. J. K. Sigfried, John F. Zerbey, S. A. Losch, J. W. Beecher, D. H. Seibert, P. J. Ferguson, Jesse Newlin, Esterly Sons, J. I. Hollenbeck, L. K. Hannum, D. L. Krebs, M. Bright, Executor Edw. Fox Est., T. H. Shollenberger, W. C. Wilson, J. E. Turk, P. W. Sheafer, C. Geo. Miller, Benj. Zimmerman, C. F. Trough, Wm. B. Wells, Jos. Hummel, S. S. Shippen, Wm. Buechley, Jacob S. Ulmer, D. G. Yuengling & Son, Jacob Miehle, Chas. Rettig, L. W. Weissinger, Wm. Atkins, Bard Wells, Jos. Dolan, M. Otterbein, R. H. Koch, Mrs. G. W. Kennedy, H. C. Russell, A. W. Sheafer, John H. Zimmerman, Walter S. Sheafer, Jas. P. Connors, A. W. Schalck, Jos. H. Fisher, August Knecht, Emma K. Deibert, Phil Brenneman, Jr., Francis A. Mortimer, John Mootz, John T. Shoener, W. H. Mortimer, G. Wesley Mortimer, Frank Morrison.

"The electric trolley line was formally opened Dec. 23, 1890. The last horse car was run on the evening of the 22nd. At noon of the 22nd the power was thrown into the new overhead trolley line from the Edison plant. There were no special ceremonies. When everything was ready Miss Frances Zerbey, who is now Mrs. Robert Braun, threw in the switch, the "juice" was ready for use, and the Trolley Line officially started.

"The party who witnessed the throwing in of the electric current then took the horse car at Centre and Market Sts., and drove to the 12th St. barn. Each one in turn took a hand at driving the horse drawn street car on its last trip. Mr. Pflueger was the regular driver and conductor of the last car.

"On arriving at the 12th St. barn the first electric trolley car was

officially run out of the barn and made ready to start on its tour of the line.

"J. H. Zerbey, Jr., of the 'Republican', then a very small lad, was held up and with his hand, assisted by his grandfather, Gen. Sigfried, threw in the first current officially into the trolley car. Then Gen. Sigfried, Jesse Newlin, W. D. Pollard, John F. Zerbey, D. H. Seibert, A. W. Schalck, F. G. Yuengling, and others took a little trial at operating the car while J. H. Zerbey acted as conductor and gave the signals to start and stop. Wellknown citizens took advantage of frequent stops to take a ride and by the time the car reached Centre St. it was pretty well crowded. The trip was made to Union St. and then back to the barn.

"On the morning of the 24th, regular operation of cars started with John Beck at the first motor and George Dentzer as conductor of the first car. Other early day runners were John McCord, of Port Carbon 'Tip' Gillespie, Frank Carter, (later an electrician on the road), Ed. Graver, (later brakeman on the Reading flyer), Joseph H. Stichter, of East Norwegian St. (C. & I. accountant), Ed. Connelly; Jas. P. Clarkin, later a Palo Alto business man. Wm. H. Miller, wellknown resident of the western part of town, was also an early day employe. Christ Staehle the veteran power house electrician, looked after the power, assisted by George Snyder, (a relative of J. H. Nichter). R. H. Kear was the superintendent of the Edison Co., of which Heber S. Thompson (father-in-law of Col. James Archbald), was the president.

"Christmas Eve, a heavy snow started which continued all of Christmas Day. The road was without any snow fighting equipment, the cars not even having brooms, and the job was to keep the track open. General Sigfried, and Mr. Schalck and several

others of the directors, assisted in the operating of the cars, while J. H. Zerbey took charge of the track cleaning force, shoveling and sweeping with the make-shift force and trying to keep the tracks clear all of Christmas Day. The snowstorm continued through Christmas night, and for the day after Christmas, when, as a result of the unusual exertion, Mr. Zerbey went to bed very ill. The running of the cars was temporarily abandoned the day after Christmas, but the tracks were in a few hours cleaned by a warm rain so that the cars could be operated regularly the third day and thereafter.

"For a short while the 'depot car' as it was called, running between Union St. on Centre and Market to the People's Railway Station on 12th St., north of Market, was the only regularly operated car. Very early in the new year of 1891 the track was built out to Dimmerling's hotel at 19th and Market Sts., Yorkville, and for a long time Jacob Dimmerling, the hotel man, had a free lunch every night for those who rode over the line to his place. Mr. Dimmerling was especially interested because he had been the fireman on the little steam engine that pulled the cars between the 12th St. station and Minersville when he had the veteran Abe McIntyre as his engineer, with Ponter, and Tiley and Ed. Linder-muth as ticket seller, conductor and brakeman."

On July 7th, 1891, the 'Republican' carried the following news item:

"A dividend of three per cent. was declared and one and a half per cent. was passed into the reserve fund by the Schuylkill Electric Railway Company last evening as the result of the first six months business of that enterprising corporation, ending July 1st, or at the rate of nearly ten per cent. per annum. It was shown that the company had made an actual profit every day since it started, and that 131,945 paid

passengers had been carried as follows: Dec. 23-31, 1890, 7,749; January, 1891, 19,842; February, 16,598; March, 17,701; April, 20,145; May, 26,107; June, 23,803. This is indeed a remarkable showing for a road one and three-quarters mile long operated by a regular schedule of only two cars, and without any special terminal attractions. There is no doubt that after the extensions to Tumbling Run, Palo Alto and Port Carbon are opened within a few weeks that Schuylkill Electric stock will be the best paying of any of our local investments, and careful investors would do well to at once take up the few shares now unsold."

"The opening of the Yorkville Line west of 12th, with regular up-to-date railway construction, was quickly followed in 1891 by the rebuilding of the track through Pottsville from 12th St. on Market to Union St. on Centre, and this was followed with the extension down Centre to Mauch Chunk St., to Palo Alto, and to Port Carbon. There was a big hump in Centre St., between Mahantongo and Union, and the city council, with M. P. Walker, (father of Jim Walker and Bob Walker) as chairman of the highway committee, with Ed. Newell (brother of the late William H. Newell of the Miners Bank) as engineer for the borough brought about the removal of that hump by the trolley company.

"In the building of the extension west of 12th St. on Market an immense rock was encountered, and after trying to break it up with sledges, dynamite, and other means, the cheapest expedient was found to be that of digging a big hole adjacent thereto and dropping the rock into it. The location of this is between 13th and 14th.

"Incident to extending the road to Port Carbon the old Haywood Rolling Mill plant at Palo Alto was acquired and new power house equipment placed therein, in what is now the main power house plant. This Hay-

wood Iron Works was a wonderfully successful affair, but there had been so many strikes in the ten years between 1875 and 1885 that one day Mr. Haywood said to his employes, 'If you strike again, I will abandon the plant', and he carried out his promise, for when they struck the next time he closed up everything and shipped the contents of the plant away. Benjamin Haywood's home was on Market St., Pottsville, where the Historical Society home is located between 3rd and 4th, and Mr. Haywood's office was on the corner of 2nd and Market where the Y. M. C. A. building now stands.

(The Power House is now used as a general supply house).

"The Port Carbon Iron Works furnished some of the material for the power plant, while the boilers came from Coatesville.

"Opposite the Palo Alto power plant was the original home of Haywood's daughter, afterwards the home of Wm. C. Wheeler, the district superintendent of the Reading Railroad, then later occupied by the Quinns, and now is the clubhouse and company offices of the trolley company.

"In the building of the line from Union St. on Centre to Mauch Chunk St. the trolley company had to arrange for the strengthening of the bridge over the Reading tracks and for the bridge work necessary to go under the Pennsylvania tracks. Then the trolley company had to assume an interest in the cost and repair of the present Palo Alto bridge. When it came to laying out the track through Palo Alto, the Reading company officials prevailed on the borough to force the building of the track in the centre of the street against the wishes of the officials of the railway company, but in after years the citizens of Palo Alto and the general public secured the moving of the tracks to the northern side of the

street where now located, thus giving greater space for vehicular traffic.

(The trolley no longer runs through Palo Alto, service having been abandoned).

"The Port Carbon bridge also had to be reconstructed with the trolley company bearing a large portion of the expense.

"The first three cars used were of the closed vestibule pattern, then a very new thing in car construction and the cars were equipped with electrical heaters, and everything was as modern as could be secured. The cars were numbered 1, 3 and 5. No. 1 was the depot car as the 12th St. car was called. No. 3 was the most economically run car of the trio. No. 5 monopolized the most attention for accidents and repairs. These three cars supplemented with some of the old horse cars that were used as trailers handled the 'big day' crowds for the first year until the second lot of cars arrived. There were exasperating delays and experiences with these old horse cars jumping the tracks. The 'boys' quickly got on to the wrinkle of crowding one platform of these trailers and then getting the cars to bob up and down which quickly assisted the wheels in jumping the tracks. Oh, how the old timers did work on rush days! How company business men neglected their own affairs to help run the trolley cars. Some acted as conductors, some took on the work of special electricians, flag men and switch tenders. They took some chances in their zealously and ignorance for when fuses would persistently blow out many a time, coupling pins performed the work in order to get the cars over the grade. And, then, how heart-breaking it was after working strenuously all day long to have three armatures blow out in 'one', 'two', 'three' order, as the cars were running into the barn on their last trip, which was an actual occurrence

through carelessness or through the last straw breaking the camel's back, so to speak, and entailing a greater expense thereby on the company than all the entire day's receipts amounted to.

"Those were the days of real Trolley Car operation on schedules to a dot. Prof. Thurlow, Mrs. Thurlow, Prof. Simonds, and a number of others who taught in the Jackson St. building, in the East Side of town, when it was the high school, required 16 minutes to close their school and to get down to Centre and Norwegian Sts. The schedule time at that corner was 12:15 on the noon trip, and what a criticism came up from the school teachers if the car left there ahead of time, and what complaint came from the car runners and passengers if the car was held there more than a minute waiting for Thurlow and Simonds and their party to get aboard. It got to be quite an amusing episode to watch the school teachers run for the car, but the teachers wanted to patronize the car they wanted to get home for a warm noon meal, living out beyond 12th Street as they did, and they wanted to get back to school for the two o'clock opening. This was just one of many such incidents of operating the cars on exact schedule.

"Centre and Market Sts., was the boarding point for the P. & R. shop hands for 11:30 and for 5:30, the quitting hours in those days. It was a regular foot-race noon and evening for the work people to get to the trolley on time.

"It may be telling tales out of school but 'business is business'. It was very hard to get the Yorkville people educated to ride on the cars for about the only time they used the trolley was when there was a heavy storm or when they had too many bundles going home on Saturday night. The trolley management did a lot of 'preaching' without avail.

Then the happy thought struck the editor of the 'Republican' and it resulted that Charley Elison, the most popular man in Yorkville, was put on as conductor. Actually, people would wait a trip or two in order to ride on Elison's car, for if they went on that car in a grouch and sour-balled and worried, they were sure to come off it in good humor, for Elison either played some prank on a traveler or the traveler played the prank on Elison. However, Elison's greatest card was story telling, joking, and intentional mispronunciation of big words. 'Skedoodle' Elison became quite an asset.

"Another way of building up traffic was to quietly hand over a bunch of regular tickets to popular travelers, or to families who had wide acquaintanceship, with the request that these people should talk up the benefits of travelling over the trolley road.

"There were people who were conscientiously afraid to travel on Electric cars for fear of lightning coming down from the clouds through the wires over the trolley pole and into the car, killing all therein. It was quite a common and constant experience to pull trolley poles from the wires during a storm and to 'coast' with the car as long as it would run by gravity; also for a long time the cars were stopped with the trolley pole down waiting for an electric storm to cease.

"There were many amusing instances in connection with the working of the electric heaters. In addition there was a composition used in a pan of sand. Cars were set on fire by both systems of heating, and passengers at times were nearly roasted if they did not quickly move to another seat for the current had a habit of accelerating the heat very suddenly and terrifically, with the innocent passenger sitting right over it.

"How proud the trolley management were with the rugs in the cars and rubber mats on the steps and the strict observance of 'No smoking,' 'No spitting.'

"The original three cars were painted 'Pennsylvania Red.' These three cars came from Lamokin near Chester. Later cars came from Brill's, south of Philadelphia.

"In the early days, there was no practical experienced man in charge of the road because of the endeavor to save high wages and so many of the tricks of operating cars were unknown, leading to harassing and amusing incidents.

"John Beck, or 'Becky,' with his depot car, considered that he had the right of way through town against anything and everything, even complaining one day about a fire engine holding him up for a moment or two. This motorman prided himself on making his schedule, but he did run his car at times at terrific speed. He never had a fatal accident nor anything serious while he was operating on the Market-Centre St. line, although he did take chances, and invariably won out until in later years he disputed the right of way with a locomotive over near St. Clair and he got his 'dose' very unfortunately.

"No matter how much behind time Beck was, once he turned 12th Street into Market the fellow in front of him had to get out of his way whether Beck was on or off schedule. Most times on account of the grades Beck could bump the other fellow back and get him running the reverse direction, and then there was a great laugh, and Beck could be heard for several squares enjoying himself.

"Tradition has it that Beck 'accidentally' bumped hay wagons off the track, but when he tackled a big colliery ten mule team drawing

a wagon with a mine engine on it Beck's car went into the shop for repairs and Beck went to bed for a rest.

"Wet rails cause accidents because of insufficient track sanding facilities. You must remember that in those days cars were not equipped like they are now, for much that is done automatically now had to be done by main force without forgetfulness.

"What a great row there was when the cars were first started to run on Sundays! The original management refrained from Sunday running, but the clamor became too strong, with the result that there was a very widely separated opinion for and against. As the result of the agitation some of the preachers in town did without their Sunday delivery of milk in mid-summer because they had to be consistent in opposing all desecration of the Sabbath.

"After the trolley road was opened there was a very urgent demand from all along the line for an extension to Tumbling Run. Hearing that some other parties were talking of stealing a march on the Schuylkill Electric Co., and not even daring to talk to all of their board of directors, it was decided to seize the best available route by making a preliminary survey and filing the extension plans at Harrisburg. It was not even deemed advisable to consult one of the local engineers so J. W. Beecher, who had been an experienced surveyor in his younger days, with J. H. Zerbey, editor of the 'Republican,' at one end of the tape line and Gen. Sigfried at the other end of the line, with the pockets of the three filled with stakes, on a sleety snowy day, when the side hill was as slippery as glass, made a tentative survey from the

hotel at Tumbling Run to the Palo Alto bridge. There was some objection to this survey but it held and the company was saved the expense of buying out some speculators.

"The year 1893 saw the Tumbling Run resort in full blast, and it rapidly became the favorite breathing spot for people for 30 miles around, only to have the public deprived of this pleasure in later years, which brought about the tearing up of the tracks and the abandonment of the Tumbling Run resort facilities. About this time, outsiders wanted possession of the company, and became very strenuous. It was the general practice of steam roads to absorb electric trolley lines, and this resulted in the Reading Co. securing a very large minority interest in the Schuylkill Electric Railway. Some of the far-sighted members of the company saw that this simply meant perversion of the original ideas and changing of the extension plans, and so there was a voluntary retirement from the Schuylkill Electric Railway Co. of some of the original members, who objected to changing management and ownership from local citizens to outsiders.

"When J. H. Zerbey, originator of the road, decided to retire, he went to every person to whom he had been instrumental in selling stock, and either bought back their stock, or saw that it was sold to the syndicate at that time buying into control. Some of the original investors decided to continue with the corporation. Those who sold out at that time never lost a dollar.

"Most of those who stayed in did lose money through the different consequent reorganizations, but no person lost money without doing it with their eyes open, as everyone had full opportunity to get their original investment back before Mr. Zerbey retired from the road.

"When the Schuylkill Electric Railway originators went before the town councils of the various boroughs they found much opposition to franchises, but almost invariably this opposition was traced down to persons who either wanted to start rival companies, or who had some sort of a personal axe to grind. The mass of the general public were always favorable to the trolley company in the early days, and did everything they could to boost it along.

"The trials and troubles of organizing the new trolley road were innumerable, but all obstacles were surmounted, and throughout the early days there never was any court trial lawsuit, which is saying a great deal.

"Thoughts run back to the task of locating the poles on which to hang the wires. In those days, the electric wire companies could not do as they pleased, but the consent of property owners had to be secured, and this was obtained for each pole located, and the funny thing of it was that the last pole, before reaching the Edison power house, in Logan St., was the only one that gave trouble, with Saloonkeeper Dotterweich jumping into the hole with an American flag, and defying everyone to get him out.

"At the time of charter application for the Schuylkill Electric Railway, it was said that Pottsville was the sixth company in the U. S., and had only been preceded by those of Richmond, Va., Cleveland, O., Atlanta, Ga., Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Black Bear, Reading, Pa., and then Pottsville. The original start, or manufacturers electric railway was that of the Sprague Co. at their plant in Schenectady, N. Y.

"Joseph B. Hoellman, for years bookkeeper, cashier, superintendent and manager of the Pottsville road,

was later a head official of one of the electric systems of Washington, D. C.

"Wm. McAdams, who graded the Tumbling Run line, is one of Pottsville's most popular citizens. (Mr. McAdams died several years ago.)

"Ed. Miller, who as a young man worked on the trolley road in the early days, was later one of the greatest trolley experts of the country, with headquarters in New York City.

"The editor of the 'Republican' was a consecutive stockholder of the present Pottsville Electric system, dating from its original inception and holding stock continuously, maintaining the succession through the various new companies and reorganizations, maintained for sentimental reasons, but having nothing to do with the management or control since his retirement several years after the road was first started.

"Anton Reinhart, of Market, near Eighth, also kept his original stock certificate, which he would never dispose of.

"Martin Otterbine, the veteran contractor, of Yorkville, did splendid service in getting the original trolley line franchises from that borough.

"D. F. Critz, the P. & R. C. & I. shop superintendent, who resided at Thirteenth and Norwegian, always claimed the credit of buying the first passenger ticket. W. C. Wilson claims that he had the first pass issued.

"Six tickets for a quarter were originally sold for a five cent cash fare charged."

It was on June 2nd, 1892, that the executive officers of the Railway Co. filed a certificate of extension at the Recorder's office, announcing that the lines of the company would be extended from its lines on Market and Centre Sts., northwardly, at the corner of Market and Centre to

Peacock St., to the borough line of Pottsville.

On June 15th, 1892, the following announcement appeared in the "Republican":

Pottsville, Philadelphia and New York capitalists friendly to and heavily interested in the People's Railway and its parent company, the Philadelphia and Reading railroad, have bought up all the remaining unsold capital stock of the Schuylkill Electric Railway Company, amounting to nearly \$50,000. R. C. Luther, general superintendent of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Co., and acting president of the People's Railway Company, represents the syndicate that made the purchase. Mr. Luther became a director of the Electric Railway Company a couple of months ago and now by the purchase of the treasury stock, with his personal holdings, that of the Yuenglings and also that of T. H. and L. B. Walker, who own a very large amount of the People's and Electric Railway stock thus become The Controlling Factor in the Electric Railway Company.

The present directors and officers are: R. C. Luther, F. G. Yuengling, L. B. Walker, Jesse Newlin, D. H. Seibert, J. H. Zerbey, J. W. Beecher, August Knecht and P. J. Ferguson, with J. K. Sigfried, president; F. G. Yuengling, vice-president; Jesse Newlin, secretary; John F. Zerbey, treasurer; L. K. Hannum, superintendent; T. H. Walker and A. W. Schalek, solicitors.

The Electric Railway now operates lines between the boroughs of Pottsville, Yorkville, Port Carbon, Palo Alto and Tumbling Run, and within a month or two Fishbach and Minersville will be added to the system, all operated under the same management.

It was on August 24th, 1893 that an item appeared in the "Republican" telling of the effort being made to dispose of the majority stock and control of the Schuylkill Electric Railway, which was then operating about seven miles of track with \$150,000 capital stock, \$95,000 mortgage bonds and an indebtedness which

was not announced. There were between one and two hundred individual holders of the 3,000 shares of stock. The heaviest stockholder of the Schuylkill Electric was the Phila. and Reading Co. which held a \$40,000 block. The "Republican" had frequently in its columns taken the stand that the transfer of such a large holding of stock to one corporation would eventually militate against the value of the small holdings.

It was some time after that that the reorganization of the board took place, Mr. Zerbey having in the meantime retired because of his refusal to join in transfers which would enable outside interests to get control of the company.

On July 3rd, 1894, the following item appeared in the "Republican":

At a meeting of the Schuylkill Electric Railway Company last evening, C. H. Barritt was elected president; Wm. A. Barritt, Jr., treasurer, and Jesse Newlin, secretary. The following comprise the new Board of Directors: L. W. Weissinger, J. W. Beecher, L. B. Walker, F. H. Treat, R. C. Luther, August Knecht, General J. K. Sigfried, Matthew Beddow and F. G. Yuengling. During the meeting it was decided to build a new car barn, and order six new open cars, with trucks that can be put under closed cars. Superintendent Whildey was continued in that position, and J. C. Blondin of Camden, N. J., was made electrician.

In November of that year, the trolley line was extended to St. Clair. On November 1st, 1894, summer car No. 64 pulled out from the Union Street turnout laden with railway officials, engineers and newspapermen to make the first trip to that town. On the trolley was F. G. Yuengling, Vice Pres.; W. A. Barritt, Jr., Treas.; W. S. Duckett, Supt.; Gen. J. K. Sigfried, Capt. Robert Allison, Solicitors R. H. Koch and Wm. Wilhelm, J. W. Beecher,

Theo. Batt, Contractor Thos. Connell, Civil Engineer Brenneman, L. B. Walker, and Edgar Nusbaum, Elias Davis, August Knecht, Percy Knowlton and C. D. Elliott.

On Nov. 5th of that year at the annual meeting for the election of directors of the People's Railway Co., the lease of the steam car system between Pottsville and Minersville to the Schuylkill Electric Railways Co., was ratified and it was left to the new board of directors to complete all arrangements. The new Board of Directors elected consisted of L. T. A. Reilly, R. C. Luther, Wm. D. Baber, Frank Carter and G. S. Clemens.

Mar. 10, 1895, the Schuylkill Electric Railway Co. started to run cars to Minersville and on May 1st, began carrying the mails between Pottsville and Minersville.

On Sept. 2nd, 1895, Contractor T. H. Connell was awarded the contract

for the building of an electric railway from Mauch Chunk St. to Schuylkill Ave. and from Minersville to the Heckscherville Valley, embracing a distance of twelve miles in all.

On Oct. 24, 1895, another change took place in the directors. A meeting was held at which F. H. Treat, C. P. King, W. A. Barritt, Phila., R. C. Luther and August Knecht of Pottsville and M. P. Beddow of Minersville were present. F. G. Yuengling resigned as Vice-President and R. H. Koch, Esq., was elected to fill the vacancy. W. A. Barritt, general manager and treasurer also resigned and F. H. Treat, of Phila., took his place. The officers of the company as elected were: Jas. Goodman, President; R. H. Koch, Vice Pres.; F. H. Treat, Treasurer and his brother-in-law, M. Hubbell, general superintendent.



Union Traction Company Organized

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* December 27, 1933)

The first effort in the direction of consolidating the trolley interests of the lower county was the organization of the big holding corporation, the Pottsville Union Traction Company on May 15, 1899. By September 1st of that year, the company was fully operative.

The subsidiary companies embraced by this combination were:—The Coal Castle Electric Railway Co., a line running from Pottsville to Glen Carbon; Sch. Haven, Orwigsburg and Pottsville Railway Co., a road from Sch. Haven to Orwigsburg; Schuylkill Electric Railway Co., operating a line between Pottsville and Palo Alto through to Port Carbon; Port Carbon and Middleport Railway Company, a road between Port Carbon and Middleport; Tamaqua and Pottsville Electric Railway Co., a line from Pottsville to St. Clair and the Pottsville and Reading Railroad Co. which operated between Mt. Carbon and Sch. Haven.

The ordinance asking for the transfers of the lease from the Schuylkill Electric Railway Co., to that of the Pottsville Union Traction Co. was granted by town council on Feb. 6th, 1900. Another ordinance was granted to the above company giving them a franchise from Minersville St. to Peacock St., then to Skidmore St., Fishbach.

A news item in the "Republican" of Sept. 24th, 1900 tells of the work commencing on the Middleport extension of their line.

Considerable litigation, through the courts as well as legislation by the councils of Pottsville and the

outlying boroughs, with occasional veto of councilmanic action by the chief burgesses of some communities, marked the early evolution period of the corporation system which eventually controlled the trolley system through this region.

It is interesting to state that the Schuylkill Electric Railway Co. had started on Sept. 19, 1891 to run trolleys through to Pt. Carbon terminus, the necessary bridges having been completed by that time. As of Sept. 1st of that year, the new officers elected by the company were as follows: W. F. Harrity, President; H. Wickham, Vice Pres. and general manager and J. A. Johan, Secy. Treas.

Communities were not fully appreciative of the benefits that trolley lines would prove to this section of the country, the granting of charters proved a source of apprehension and it was often questioned whether there was good judgment in giving for practically a song, what might in the future have proved a valuable franchise.

Opinions differed and so mass meetings were held, followed by vital council sessions when the many pertinent matters were given a thorough threshing out. At times such heated arguments arose that there were instances of fisticuffs resorted to right on the floor of the borough legislative bodies.

These abnormal conditions were pronounced in the period leading up to 1894. On July 31st of that year, a special meeting of the borough council was held for the purpose of hearing protests from a number of

taxpayers, particularly in regard to granting of any more franchises to electric railways for occupancy of Pottsville's Streets.

While this situation served, temporarily, at least, to curb the promiscuous attempt at landing franchises, immediately, in Pottsville and its suburbs, on Sept. 19, 1894, a new area was opened by the granting of a charter from Harrisburg to the New Castle, Minersville and Tremont Railway Co., capitalized at \$100,000. The officers of the new corporation were: M. F. Sadler, president; Elias E. Davis, secretary, with M. F. Thompson, Jr., and L. S. Sadler, as directors.

Previously, on Sept. 11, the Pottsville Traction Co., had been granted a franchise over certain streets of St. Clair for trolley purposes. This was brought about, largely, because W. J. Whitehouse and Captain D. C. Henning, attorneys for that corporation, backed up by the officers, agreed to have a power house erected and lines laid within 90 days.

Though promises were easily made, their fulfillment was another matter. So the "Republican" in its issue of Nov. 5th, showed that the corporation did not find everything plain sailing even after the franchise was voted it. This significant publication was made under that date:

"St. Clair Council repealed the ordinance granting the Pottsville Traction Co. right-of-way through the streets and the franchise was granted, instead, to the Tamaqua and Pottsville Co., which was controlled by the Schuylkill Electric Railway Co. Failure of the Pottsville Traction Co. to fulfill its contract was the reason."

Following the granting of a right-of-way, early in October, 1901, through Yorkville, by the Council of the former borough which is now the Seventh ward of Pottsville, there was disclosed a gigantic promotion plan. Attorney William Wilhelm

worked for several months to bring the enterprise to a head so that franchises might be procured without the combination plans being handicapped by outside interference. The right-of-way grant provided for a new railway to connect Mechanicsville, Port Carbon, St. Clair, Pottsville, Mt. Hope, Bull's Head, Minersville, Primrose, Forrestville, The Delaware and the Heckschersville Valley. In addition to these, it was hoped that, in a short time, the line would connect with Frackville and form the link that would bring the section south of the mountain in direct touch with the north-of-the-mountain towns.

On October 15, 1901, President King, of the Pottsville Union Traction Company, asked for another right-of-way through the Pottsville Borough. It covered the construction of an additional curve at the corner of Centre and Market Streets, enabling the corporation to connect the Coal Castle Division with the Market Street line. This loop was specially designed to cut out delays.

Franchises were also asked by Attorney Wilhelm, who described to Council the route of a proposed new trolley line to be constructed by a company in process of organization. The corporation hoped to enter Pottsville at Mt. Hope, proceed to Forrestville, through the Heckschersville Valley and Wadesville, to St. Clair and other towns.

Early in the operation of trolley facilities over the People's Railway to Minersville, trouble was incurred because it was alleged that the Pottsville Union Traction Company was not living up to its pledges relative to schedules and other stipulated rights that were to be accorded by the transportation company in that town. After many months of protests and litigation, etc., Judge A. L. Shay, of the Common Pleas Bench,

in a lengthy opinion, on January 6, 1902, annulled the franchise of the electric railway in Minersville.

It was decreed in an equity suit, brought by the Borough of Minersville against the Schuylkill Electric Railway Company and the Pottsville Union Traction Company that there was rendered nul and void the rights, franchises and privileges granted the Schuylkill Electric Company, by the Borough Council of Minersville vested in the ordinance of Oct. 21, 1896.

The decree cut off the right of the transportation corporation to use Sunbury Street, Fifth Street and Delaware Street or Avenue, northwardly, from Sunbury Street to the line of Cass Township, which reverted to the Borough. The legal opinion enjoined that the Schuylkill Electric Railway Company and the Pottsville Union Traction Company be perpetually restrained from running cars upon the tracks laid on Sunbury Street at Minersville.

It was also ordered that the Schuylkill Electric Railway Company remove its rails and road equipment from Sunbury Street and restore the thoroughfare to its former good condition. This was directed to be done under the supervision of the Street Committee of the Minersville Borough Council, before May 15, 1902, also to pay all costs incurred in the legal and other proceedings.

On Nov. 28, 1902, the Borough of Minersville instituted quo warranto proceedings against the Schuylkill Electric Railway Company and the Pottsville Union Traction Co. for the revocation of the charter of the former as the result of the litigation that had been pending in the local courts for several years.

December 3rd was fixed by Attorney General John P. Elkin for a hearing, when Attorneys Brumm and Jones appeared for the Borough of

Minersville. Attorneys Guy E. Farquhar and Richard H. Koch represented the Traction Co.

It was believed after lengthy litigation between the Borough Council of Minersville and the Pottsville Union Traction Company and its subsidiaries, over the tracks of the latter corporation on Sunbury Street, and over a route to the Heckscherville Valley, promised several years before, that all difference would result in a settlement outside the law. The promoters of the company renewed their pledge to construct a road to Heckscherville and some of the citizens of Minersville started to show that they were becoming reconciled.

It was on December 22, 1904, that orders were placed for materials to be used in the construction of the new trolley line between St. Clair and Shenandoah and it was expected that the building of the new road would be commenced as soon as the winter's frost was out of the ground. This was designed as a continuation of the Frackville and Pottsville Electric road, a subsidiary branch of the Pottsville Company, and under the direction of the officers of which the line between St. Clair and Port Carbon was being operated.

The ordinance passed by the St. Clair Borough Council, granting the Pottsville Union Traction Company the right-of-way through the town, was vetoed by Chief Burgess George Frantz.

On January 3, 1906, the franchise, asked by the Pottsville Union Traction Company, to construct and maintain a trolley line on Nichols St. was granted. It was for a period of 40 years. The ordinance did not provide a schedule for the operation of the line, and R. R. Weissinger urged that an obligation be imposed to have the cars operated, at least, every hour. The original ordinance

or franchise of the company, to which this one was supplemental, provided a 15-minute schedule on all lines. The ordinance was adopted as a whole.

Town Clerk G. A. Berner reported that on January 19, 1906, he received the acceptance of the Pottsville Traction Company of the ordinance, passed by Council, which granted the corporation a 40-year franchise to lay tracks on Nichols St. The construction of the new road was to be started on or about April 1st.

By June 20, 1906, J. G. White & Co., Inc. had concluded negotiations for acquiring various electric railway and lighting interests, in Schuylkill County, and a financial syndicate was formed by W. A. Read & Co., of New York, and Forest & Co., of Phila. The syndicate underwrote and sold: \$3,500,000 of first mortgage, five per cent. 30-year, free-of-tax gold bonds; \$975,000 of five per cent cumulative convertible preferred stock, and \$4,000,000 of common stock. Of these securities, approximately, one-half were taken and held by the original owners of the properties, both here and abroad, the balance being sold to investors for completing the several purchases and providing about \$1,500,000 for improvement and extension of the several utilities.

After six months' examination on the ground by J. G. White & Co.'s engineers, the various plans for acquisition and improvement were determined, all of which were confirmed and supplemented by the bankers' engineer, William Barclay Parsons. The engineering and general management of the property was assumed by J. G. White & Co., and the \$1,500,000 provided for improvements was early expended in making new railway and lighting extensions.

Final details of the transfer of the property of the Pottsville Union Traction Co., the Edison Illuminat-

ing Co., and the Tamaqua and Lansford Street Railway Co., were, on June 28, 1906, consummated at the offices of the Real Estate Title Co. at Phila. The papers were signed and these corporations passed into the hands of the syndicate, which was busy for several months, engineering the gigantic deal. It was reported that Thomas Dolan's United Gas Improvement Co., of Phila., had a controlling interest in the new company.

On July 5, 1906, new electric officials of the various companies of the Schuylkill County Light & Trolley Cos. were chosen, representing all the corporations, as follows: W. E. Harrington, president; Irwin Shupp, vice-president; T. T. Wickham, secretary-treasurer; F. D. Lash, assistant secretary-treasurer.

In each of the companies, there were local representatives chosen as follows: Edison Illuminating Co., of Pottsville, viz.: H. S. Albright, F. P. Spiese, James Archbald and Andrew Robertson, Mr. Archbald being designated as local director of the Anthracite Electric Light Co.; Minersville Electric Light & Power Co., Matthew Beddow, local director; Frackville & Gilberton Light & Power Co., Dr. C. A. Bleiler, local director; F. P. Spiese, the Tamaqua Light Co., and also Citizens' Gas Co. director. A. B. Dietrich, auditor of the consolidated companies, was a director in most of these concerns.

On August 1, 1906, the Pottsville Union Traction Co. granted an increase of wages, amounting to two cents per hour, to every employe. Under the old scale, they were paid 16 cents per hour for the first year; 17 cents for the second year; 18 cents for the third year, and 19 for the fourth year. By the new scale, they received 17 cents for the first year, 19 for the second, and 21 for the third year, and thereafter.

Eastern Penna. Railways Co.

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* December 28-January 1, 1934)

It was on Nov. 2, 1892, that the Eastern Penna. Railways Company had been organized, taking up the franchise of the former Tamaqua & Lansford Street Railway Co. It was under the Eastern Pennsylvania Railways that the trolley lines in lower Schuylkill County were operated until the roads were finally abandoned and the last car was run into the barn at Palo Alto.

It was not, however, until 1906 that the control of the Eastern Penna. Railways Co. extended throughout the county. Not only the operation of trolleys but also the development of light, heat and power then became a part of the company's activities.

Leasing the building formerly used for office purposes by the Pottsville Iron & Steel Co. on Mauch Chunk St., and later occupied by the Pottsville Supply Co., Mooney & Reilly, construction engineers and contractors, took charge of the extension and improvements which the Eastern Penna. Railways Co. decided to push with all speed. This was designed to be of special benefit to the development of the entire traction system of Schuylkill County.

The new quarters were used for the large clerical and engineering force of the contracting firm who, at the time that they located here, had been conducting various big contracts in various parts of the country.

On Aug. 22, 1906, the force of surveyors completed their work on the new line, from Shenandoah to Pottsville. It was designed to be 14 miles in length which would greatly shorten the distance from St. Clair

to Pottsville, by trolley, and make communication with Frackville and towns north-of-the-mountain more convenient.

This work was in charge of Chief Engineer W. Ettinger, who was assisted by Roy Gregory and George H. Steidel as transitmen; George Halberstadt, as levelman; Herbert Kynor, Stanley Super, Frank Wilson and Joseph Tropp as rodmen. Commencing at Shenandoah, they ran their lines through Wiggans, Bear Run Junction, the upper part of the Boroughs of Gilberton, Frackville and St. Clair; and from St. Clair to Pottsville over the P. R. R. Tunnel on the east side of the highway along the shoe factory, necessitating cutting away part of the banks; thence down Nichols St. to connect with the Centre St. line.

The first local representative to be named as "train" dispatcher, was Geo. R. Williams, of this city, who formerly ran as a motorman on the Pottsville Union Traction Co.'s trolley lines. Supt. Hewitt appointed him on Nov. 3, 1906, as a new berth which was created after the retirement of Division Supt. Joseph B. Hoellman, also a Schuylkill County man who lived at Girardville prior to making his home in Pottsville.

One of the biggest investments of the East Penn, as the company became generally known, was the erection of a large power plant at Palo Alto for which ground was broken on Dec. 22, 1906. This mammoth plant, which cost \$250,000, was placed in operation on Nov. 7, 1907. The light plants at Pottsville and Min-

ersville had been abandoned and current was distributed from the power house to the substations in those towns and also at Port Carbon and Palo Alto through to Orwigsburg.

It was proposed to have trolley cars in operation between Pottsville and Mauch Chunk by New Year's. The Coal Castle branch was then being rebuilt.

On account of plans for procuring the right-of-way over part of the area required, notably that of the P. & R. C. & I. Co., the extension of the trolley line from Middleport to Tamaqua, negotiations having been started on Jan. 7, 1907, was delayed.

Stockholders of the East Penna. Railways Co. held an election at Pottsville on Jan. 15, 1907, and also those of the subsidiary corporations and elected officers as follows: Eastern Penna. Railways Co., directors, P. G. Gossler, Herbert Coppel. L. A. Riley, R. W. Martin, J. G. White, F. H. Reade, of New York; R. L. Forrest, of Philadelphia; W. L. Sheaffer and H. S. Thompson of Pottsville.

The directors chosen for the Pottsville Union Traction Co., controlling the other subsidiary companies, in this district, were: W. E. Harrington, J. G. White, P. G. Gossler, R. L. Forrest, P. D. Thornton, R. W. Martin, W. L. Sheaffer, W. J. Richards and H. S. Thompson. Mr. Harrington was elected as president.

This was the time when a great deal of attention was paid to signals by all trolleys as well as steam railroads. The local trolley directorate decided to install an entirely new electric signal system for operation all over its lines. It was taken up as soon as other pressing development would permit. The purpose of the new system was to make better time without the necessity of the motormen stopping their cars at

every block signal to turn on the lights.

Covering six months, ending Dec. 31, 1906, the report of the Eastern Penna. showed that the corporation under then existing conditions, began business on July 1, 1906 and controlled through stock ownership, the following corporations: Pottsville Union Traction Co., The Schuylkill Haven and Orwigsburg Street Railway Co., Pottsville & Reading Railroad Co., The Schuylkill Electric Railway Co., Edison Electric Illuminating Co., of Pottsville; Anthracite Electric Light Co., of this city; Frackville & Gilberton Light, Heat & Power Co.; Tumbling Run Park Association; The Tamaqua & Pottsville Electric Railway Co.; Coal Castle Electric Railway; The Port Carbon and Middleport Electric Railway Co.; Edison Electric Illuminating Co. of Tamaqua; Citizens' Gas Co. of Tamaqua; The Minersville Electric Light Co.; Citizens' Gas Co., of Minersville, and The Minersville Fuel Gas Co.

On April 29, 1907, the Board of Directors of the Pottsville Union Traction Co. met with nine members present, who approved of the full and exhaustive reports of the improvements under way. The election resulted as follows: W. E. Harrington, chosen to succeed himself as president; F. B. Lasher, assistant treasurer, advanced to secretary-treasurer in place of T. F. Wickham, transferred; W. L. Sheaffer, vice president; with Messrs. Harrington, Lasher and W. J. Richards as an executive committee.

On Aug. 13, 1907, a surprise was sprung in local trolley circles when F. A. Hewitt, superintendent for the East Penn formally tendered his resignation. It was accepted as of Oct. 10th. Supt. L. C. Bradley was assigned to the duties formerly performed by Supt. Hewitt.

It was on Nov. 18, 1907, that the Traction Co. announced on and after Dec. 1st of that year, the cash nickel fare, in vogue prior to Nov. 1st, of the previous year, would again become effective. Books containing 24 tickets, which were sold for \$1.00 were used only on the Minersville Division.

C. F. Crane, of Rochester, N. Y., was appointed General Passenger Agent a newly-created berth of the Traction Co. and the East Penn on Jan. 4, 1908. His headquarters were established at Pottsville. The new position was necessitated because the improvements to the local trolley system had opened a far-reaching territory.

Mr. Crane's duties were designated as similar to those required on steam lines, viz., to keep close watch on the interests of the traveling public; arrange excursions, trolley parties, etc., and to improve the general service wherever possible. His entire time was to be devoted to the improvement of traffic conditions. Shortly after his appointment he took up the matter of a new departure in the way of timecards for the various divisions, under his charge. This was followed by announcement as to the schedule for the Mauch Chunk and Tamaqua branches.

The Traction Co. regarded Mr. Crane, who prior to his coming to Pottsville was general passenger agent of the Interurban and City Railways of Rochester, N. Y., for a number of years, the official needed to place the trolley conveniences of this region, on a plane second to none other in Pennsylvania.

It was definitely decided on Feb. 19, 1908 that the new trolley service between Pottsville and Mauch Chunk would be opened on the 27th of that month. The schedule and tariffs had all been prepared for that date, as then, the connecting link between

Middleport and Tamaqua, was practically finished.

On April 27, 1908, a charter for a proposed trolley line to connect the more important towns through the Lykens Valley and in western Schuylkill County was applied for. It was known as the Schuylkill and Dauphin Traction Co. The incorporators were: J. W. Moyer, Esq., of Pottsville; E. D. Rank, M. G. Stewart, L. H. Schappell and N. D. Yoder. The trolley line never materialized.

The Tamaqua Light, Heat and Power Co was acquired by the East Penn on March 15, 1909. Its power plant was shut down and after the merger current was furnished from the larger local plant at Palo Alto.

Another litigation, not so long drawn out as that associated with the Minersville Borough proceedings in court was that of a preliminary injunction case between the Union Traction Co. and the Borough of Port Carbon. Just opposite to his action in the Minersville litigation, wherein Judge A. L. Shay issued the decree that compelled the Traction Company to rip up their tracks in that town, the same magistrate made the preliminary injunction permanent, pending a further hearing, prohibiting the Port Carbon borough authorities from interfering with the company in running cars over the Coal Street bridge in Port Carbon. Under the order of court, the company also was restricted, not being allowed to transport passengers over the bridge. The order specifically stated that the court regarded the bridge as unsafe for the use of loaded passenger cars.

By the ruling, the corporation was permitted to take cars over the bridge, in order to separate their lines, limited to the first trip in the morning and the last trip at night. The bridge was not to be used for trafficking of empty cars,

during the day, nor could any passengers be taken over the bridge, under any circumstances, until testimony, upon other questions at issue was taken and a final disposition made of the case or until the bridge was placed in safe condition.

On May 8 1909, the Traction Company filed an additional bill with the court asking for permission to repair the Mill Creek bridge on Coal Street and make it safe for travel. This they offered to do by placing an additional floor truss, also renewing the wooden supports, carrying the weight, which they deemed would be sufficient to make the bridge safe for travel. Use of the bridge was held up for some time pending an order of court on the corporation's proposition.

The East Penn received rails on May 27, 1909, to be used for constructing the four miles of trackage on the Coal Castle Division. This meant practically rebuilding the road. The corporation also started rebuilding its line out from the Union Street turnout to Mt. Carbon and renewing poles and overhead equipment on the Minersville Division.

The "Republican" of June 25, 1909 said:

"The State Railroad Commission today directed the Pottsville Union Traction Co. to erect a station at its terminal at Coal Castle."

At a meeting of a special committee of the Borough Council, comprising seven members, one from each ward, appointed for the purpose of endeavoring to reach some amicable arrangement for handling trolley traffic through Pottsville, with Supt. Bradley, a proposition was submitted by the latter to extend the Union St. turnout to Howard Avenue and to grant the Traction Co. privileges for the construction of another turnout on Centre St., north of Miners-

ville St. Upon Supt. Bradley's pledge that the turnouts would make it possible for maintaining a first class schedule, the privilege was granted.

As early as the fall of 1909, the Borough Council showed itself favorable to double turnouts. On Nov. 3rd of that year, the right was virtually voted the Union Traction Co. to construct two turnouts on Centre St., provided the corporation acceded to the demands of the business men that a trackage agreement be entered into by the company to permit other companies to enter the town and have the use of their tracks if such a contingency would arise in the future.

Supt. Bradley went on record that such a privilege would be highly acceptable to the company but, for business reasons, could not be entered into. As the outcome of the controversy the Ordinance Committee were directed to draw up an ordinance allowing the company to construct the proposed turnouts, one between Harrison and Nichols Sts. on Centre St. and the other between existing turnout at Union St. and Howard Avenue, on S. Centre street, embodying any conditions the committee might see fit to impose.

On Dec. 21, 1909, Joseph C. Bell was appointed as superintendent of Railways with headquarters at Pottsville, succeeding C. E. Palmer, who resigned as of the first of the year. Geo. R. Williams, of Pottsville, dispatcher, with headquarters here, was appointed division superintendent, at Lansford, succeeding to the berth formerly held by Mr. Bell.

As it was estimated that there would be entailed a cost of \$20,000 to regrade and pave, involved in placing the two turnouts on Centre St. on Feb. 15, 1910, Council defeated the trolley ordinance, presented two weeks previously. In its place, there was adopted, on first reading,

another one providing for the regrading and paving of Centre St. There was embodied in the new ordinance the privilege of constructing a double track from the Sheaffer Building to Harrison St.

According to the terms of the ordinance, Council required the Traction Co. to pay the Borough of Pottsville \$20,000 and to bear the expense of regrading the street and also of paving between the trolley tracks and the street outside the rails for a distance of 18 inches.

The grades, under provision of the new ordinance, were to be supplied by the Borough Engineer and the Traction Co. was requested to cover all entailed regrading and repairing. The draft of the ordinance also required that "extras," caused, either by the contractor or by work delays, were to be paid by the corporation. Filing a bond of \$40,000 was another exaction for the faithful performance of every detail of the company's part of the contract.

Changes were frequently being made in the officials of the East Penn. On June 14, 1910, W. B. Rockwell was named as manager. He was previously general manager of the Lake Shore and Western Railway Co., the Syracuse & Southern Railway Co., and the Syracuse & South Bay Co., of Syracuse.

Manager Rockwell's local appointment was manager of the East Penn, Pottsville Union Traction Co., and the Eastern Pennsylvania Light, Heat and Power Co. He succeeded L. C. Bradley.

Borough Council, on Dec. 10, 1910, in special session, called for the purpose of sifting out the long existing complaint about the trolley schedule in vogue, at the close of a lengthy and acrimonious discussion, adopted a resolution giving the Traction Co. ten days to rearrange their schedule so that it would carry out the terms

of the ordinance. Manager Rockwell explained to the municipal body that, in his opinion, the company was not violating any of the Borough's ordinances.

It was the contention that the Minersville cars were the only ones, although running through St. Clair, which did not go to the upper end of the paved area and double track and that the existing arrangement suited the greatest number of people. This was the chief source of complaint made that prompted the meeting of Council with Manager Rockwell. Then the Company was given their peremptory order from the Borough legislators.

After investigation by a special committee of Council, it was decided that in running trolley cars through the paved section of the town, there would be enforced the obligation of a stop at the S. Centre St. waiting room, and that the former stops at Union St. and Howard Ave. would be eliminated. The company was also accorded the privilege to hold certain cars for connections.

The indebtedness of the East Penn was increased a million dollars at a meeting of the stockholders held at their Pottsville offices on Jan. 27, 1913. This amount was to be used for extensions and improvements to light and trolley lines.

On Feb. 15, 1913, it was the general consensus of opinion that the atmosphere was clearing for the extension of the Frackville and Shenandoah trolley line of the Eastern Pennsylvania Railways Co., and it was indicated that the proposed link would be started at Coal Castle, thence a mile and a-half to New Castle, and along the pike, onward and upward, to Frackville on top of the Broad Mountain. This would be just above Mahanoy Plane, then a parallel of the P. R. R., to Wiggans

and again, go side-by-side with the P. R. R. to Shenandoah.

One of several routes were much talked about, viz. an extension from St Clair way, owing to the round-about detour, southward on Centre St., Pottsville, and then, through Palo Alto and Port Carbon. On the other hand it was agreed that the detour could be avoided by constructing the Nichols St. line either through Mill Creek or East Mines, to St. Clair.

On Dec. 3, 1913, the East. Penn completed plans for the construction of a \$350,000 power house adjoining their large plant at Palo Alto, work to be started in the spring. This was made feasible due to the fact that the corporation had just acquired an additional plot of ground adjoining their Palo Alto property, as a site for the proposed new building.

Merger of 11 electric companies were chartered for Schuylkill Co., and all were approved by the Governor on Dec. 30, 1913. The following were taken over by the new holding corporation in the merger consolidation: Schuylkill Light, Heat and Power Co., East Mahanoy, Frackville, Gilberton, West Mahanoy Township and Mahanoy City Electric Corporations. It was capitalized at \$100,000. The officers chosen were: A. R. Campbell, president; C. D. McGirr, Clayton Newbold, S. H. Taylor and Gilbert Raiguel, all of Phila

The "Republican" of April 25, 1914, said:

"Market Street, from Garfield Square to 12th Street, will be double-tracked. This was decided upon at a conference, of officials of the City and the Eastern Pennsylvania Railways Company, with the property owners along that section, at a meeting, held on April 24, 1914. The trolley company is to pave between the tracks and for 11 feet beyond the

outside of the tracks, in Garfield Square, leaving the property owners ten feet of paving to pay for. Between Sixth and Twelfth Streets the trolley company will pave between their tracks and for 18 inches outside of the rails."

On Jan. 17, 1914, testimony was taken as to the application of the Schuylkill Electric Railways Co. for an extension of the time given it by court to repair its roadway. Atty. C. E. Berger called attention to the fact that the corporation had already been leniently dealt with. He showed that the original order of the court was affirmed on Oct. 13th. One hundred days, from the time fixed in the original order, gave the company until Nov. 6th. A later order extended the time limit to Jan. 5th.

It was necessary that work on the road should be stopped on Dec. 23rd, owing to the advance of the winter season. Inclement weather gave the company but 46 of the original 60 days, seven Sundays being included in the estimate. Then, too, it was referred to that snow, on Dec. 14th, tied up the road for three days. Thus, it was represented, the company really had only 36 working days.

On Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 2, 1914, the new trolley road link to Frackville, atop of the Broad Mountain from Gilberton in the Mahanoy Valley was formally opened. The members of the Borough Council and officials of the various towns embraced in the new extension of the Schuylkill Railways Co., were guests of General Manager W. S. Leib, on the occasion, in a tour of inspection in trolley cars furnished by the corporation.

This piece of road was regarded as a model, between Frackville and Gilberton, being a mile and a-half in length, embracing a long, steel bridge over the steam line of the

P. & R. Railway Co., another spanning the Mahanoy Creek, and a third, all of steel. P. J. Campion, of Mahanoy City, had the contract, but sub-let it.

On Dec. 2, 1914, the Borough Council heard first reading of an ordinance providing for an extension of the double-track system, from Harrison to Nichols Sts., on N. Centre St. General Manager Rockwell, Supt. Rickert and Solicitor Farquhar, of the Union Traction Co., attended the meeting.

It was on May 4, 1915, that there was first reading given the ordinance granting a franchise to the Schuylkill County Railways Co. for a line from St. Clair to Pottsville, via the short line. It was referred to the ordinance committee for recommendations and changes.

Through Manager W. B. Rockwell, the East Penn asked permission to build in Nichols St. to the Mill Creek Ave. line a single track trolley line. Council acceded to the proposition and instructed the ordinance committee to draw up a franchise suitable to the borough.

Amicable agreement was entered into by officials of the Schuylkill Traction Co. operating the Ashland-Girardville, Shenandoah-Mahanoy City trolley lines, and the Eastern Pennsylvania Railways Co., and on June 5, 1915, a meeting was held for the purpose of letting the contract for the construction of the Shenandoah-to-Pottsville air line trolley. It was expected that its construction would be started as soon as the new transportation project could be properly financed.

Officials of the East Penn on March 9, 1916, opened the East Penn Club at Palo Alto, for the recreation and accommodation of all the male employes of the corporation. It was attended by prominent men of this

section, and all entered heartily into the enjoyment of the splendid program which was prepared for the occasion.

On Nov. 1, 1916, L. H. Palmer was announced as general manager of the East Penn. He had served as acting manager, previously from May 8th. W. B. Rockwell died suddenly in April. The new manager was a former resident of Baltimore.

Manager Palmer announced in August, 1917, that the corporation had filed with the Public Service Commission of Pennsylvania, a new schedule of street car fares to become effective on August 30th, fixing a new standard of six cents as a general rule.

On August 30, 1917, brewing trouble at St. Clair resulted in street employes of the Borough of St. Clair starting to remove the rails of the Traction Co. at two points, Dormer's on Mill St., and the junction with the short line at Patterson St. This tied up both long and short lines through St. Clair.

The trolley corporation's officials started a restraining injunction to stop the St. Clair Borough Council from having the trolley rails torn up, and to prevent further interference with their operation of the trolley lines.

General Manager W. S. Leib, of the Schuylkill Railway Co. at the start of this trouble, issued orders that north of the mountain cars be run only as far south as Boone's at St. Clair.

Smooth operation marked the inauguration of the system that put into effect the new six-cent trolley fares. There was only serious opposition to this experienced on the long line to St. Clair and on the Schuylkill Haven division.

On Sept. 24, 1917, L. H. Palmer general manager of the East Penn, resigned to accept a position as

assistant to the president of the United Railway and Electric Co. of Baltimore. Van Dusen Rickert, of Pottsville, also resigned. L. S. Cairns was selected as the successor to Mr. Palmer.

Effective Nov. 1, 1918, a reduction in the trolley fare was made, using the old zone system instead of the mileage system. Clyde A. Hall was the acting general manager, having assumed that position after the sudden death of Manager Cairns.

On Jan. 17, 1919, Mr. Hall was appointed general manager, and took charge of the company. On May 1st, of that year, the East Penn abandoned its Centre St. waiting room, which it had leased from the P. & R. C. & I. Co., and all the business of the company was thereafter transacted at the new headquarters, Second and W. Market Sts., which had been leased from the R. E. Lee Estate for a period of five years.

Another change took place on July 26, 1920, in the trolley rates, when it was announced that there would be an increase of two cents on all lines running out of Pottsville and three cents in the city limits. It was during Sept. of that year that the Birney safety trolley car was tried out on the Fishbach route, and proved so successful that a trolley of this type was also placed on the Orwigsburg line, and was to be used on other lines of the company.

On May 12, 1921, L. M. McCray, of Kennebunkport, Me., was appointed assistant general manager to Mr. Hall, and in July of that year, "tokens" were introduced on the local system. They were sold at the rate of 12 for one dollar, making the fare within the city limits eight and one-third cents for each trip.

It was on May 24, 1922, that an announcement was made of the proposed building of a three million dollar power plant, which was to be

completed within the next two years in the vicinity of Berger's Dam, between Schuylkill Haven and Pinegrove, to supply electric power to all parts of the county. Manager Hall had been working on this plan during the three years of his residence here as general manager of the J. G. White interests.

On July 29, 1922, the Public Service Commission allowed the merger of the East Penn Electric Co., newly organized by the Eastern Penna. Railway Co. and the Eastern Penna. Light Heat and Power Co., along with its subsidiary companies.

On Feb. 10, 1923, the stockholders of the Eastern Penna. Rwy. Co. and 10 subsidiary companies voted in favor of the consolidation of all their interests into one company, to be known as the Eastern Penna. Power and Railway Co. The companies included in the merger were: Eastern Penn Light, Heat and Power Co., Pottsville Union Traction Co., Eastern Penna. Railways Co., Schuylkill Electric Co., Tamaqua and Pottsville Electric R. R. Co., Coal Castle Electric Co., Pottsville and St. Clair Electric Railway Co., Schuylkill Haven and Orwigsburg Rwy. Co., and the Port Carbon and Middleport Electric Rwy. Co.

The company continued in this way after the merger until Jan. 8, 1925, when the Penna. Power and Light Co., which had originated in Hazleton, but had expanded until it controlled the electric companies in over 20 counties of the state, took over the local East Penna. Co. The annual meeting of the stockholders was held on March 10, 1925, and P. B. Sawyer, Harry C. Trexler, E. M. Young, J. S. Wise, Jr., and C. M. Walter, all of Allentown, were elected as directors of the merged company.

C. A. Hall was retained as general manager of the East Penn Electric

Co., and Wm. A. Kienzle was retained as assistant auditor and treasurer. The stock of the local company, which had been controlled by the J. G. White Corp. of New York, and had been purchased by the Penna. Power, was formally transferred to the new company. The new board of five members elected E. G. Sawyer, president; E. W. Hill and J. F. Wise, Jr., as vice-presidents; C. W. Walter, secretary; E. G. Summerson, H. S. Martin, L. K. Bingaman, B. Sweitzer, G. F. Carter, W. M. Brooks, assistant secretaries, all of those elected being from Allentown, leaving Pottsville without representation in the company.

On May 20, 1925, a reorganization of the company took place, and the power and light departments were thereafter to function independently of the street railways department. John S. Wise was operating manager of the Penna. Power and Light Co. and H. F. Dicke, vice-president, of the East Penn. Up to this time, some of the executives had had duties which brought them in direct contact with both the power and railway departments, but this was now eliminated. Under the new arrangements which became effective June 1st, J. M. Ralston, newly appointed auditor, and M. W. Fox, chief clerk, and C. A. Hall, divisional manager, were the only employees whose work was connected with both departments.

The street railway department was placed in charge of S. H. Serena, superintendent, with his staff consisting of Geo. Williams, special representative; Nicholas Lentz, master mechanic; Samuel Cochran, road master, and J. H. Hay, purchasing and claim agent.

Of the light and power department, Clayton Geiger was superintendent of distribution; John Mower, general inspector of service: Wm.

Long, manager of the commercial department. C. A. Hall, who had been general manager of the East Penn, resigned, his resignation taking effect June 15th, and Peter A. McCarron, of Mahanoy City, recently appointed divisional manager of the East Penn, succeeded him as manager.

Oct. 1, 1925, Wm. H. Evans was appointed Transportation Manager of the Penna. Power and the following July 6th, 1926, L. C. Nelson of Wilkes-Barre was made division manager of the Lansford-Mauch Chunk Division of the company which had previously been managed out of the Pottsville office. July 31st, another appointment was announced, that of Geo. R. Williams being made superintendent of the Pottsville division of the East Penn, succeeding Samuel Serena who resigned to accept a position in New York State.

In the meantime, the plans for the building of the dam near Pinegrove had been carried out and on June 16, 1927, an application was made to the Public Service Commission by P. B. Sawyer, John S. Wise and C. M. Walker, officials of the Penna. Power and Light Co., for the incorporation of the Pinegrove Twp. Power and Light Co. which was to serve light to the farming district in and around Swatara, adjacent to the Power Plant at Pinegrove. Mr. McCarron also had received plans for a new \$50,000 club house to be built on the shores of Sweet Arrow Lake, as the dam near Pinegrove had come to be called, after having been called Lake Hall for a time.

But, the end of the trolley era in Pottsville and, in fact, in Schuylkill County, was approaching and on Nov. 17th, 1927, the East Penn announced its intention of removing the equipment which provided power for the operation of the trolleys of the Schuylkill Railways Co., north of the mountain.

And then started the era of the bus. April 21st, 1928, a certificate of public convenience was granted to H. F. Dicke in the interests of the subsidiary bus company of the East Penn, The Schuylkill Transportation Co. for operation of a bus line between Pottsville and Mauch Chunk by the Public Service Commission, which refused the application of Mr. Dicke for the right to operate a bus line between Pottsville and Tower City and between Pottsville and Minersville. On the same day, A. T. Dice, in the interests of the Reading Transportation Co., a subsidiary of the Reading Co., was granted the right to operate bus lines between Pottsville and Lykens and between Tremont and Pinegrove.

And then, on July 24th, 1928, the East Penn Traction Co. came into being according to an item in the "Republican" of that date which said as follows:

"Through a merger and a segregation approved by the Public Service Commission, the East Penn Electric Co. lost its identity in amalgamation with 34 other Penna. electric service concerns and the Penna. Power and Light Co. and the East Penn Traction Co. came into being.

"Among the Schuylkill County concerns which will assume the name of the Penna. Power and Light Co. are the Panther Valley Electric Co., operating in Lansford, Coaldale, Summit Hill and Nesquehoning, and the Schuylkill Electric operated in Pottsville, Tamaqua, Ashland, Frackville, Minersville, Tremont and Williamstown, under the management of the Penna. Power since July, 1925. The Panther Valley Electric Co. fell under the management of the P. P. & L. Co. in July of 1926."

It was not long before the old Power House at Palo Alto, which had meant so much to that little town, was in process of being dismantled, this beginning on March 14th. The equipment which went out of active use with the operating of the new plant at Pinegrove, was disposed of.

The advent of the motor coach and the private auto sounded the death knell of passenger transportation by trolleys. The company reported that they were constantly losing money through failure of the people to patronize the trolleys.

The Centre St. trolley line had been rebuilt in comparatively recent years and a part of the West Market St. line had had new and heavier rails laid but when Council proposed to pave the remainder of West Market St., and notified the Trolley Co., that it would be expected to bear its share of the expense, representatives of the East Penn Traction Co. appeared before Council and informed them that if they had to pay any share of the paving they would abandon the trolleys entirely in Pottsville.

It was decided to abandon the lines which no longer paid and the Coal Castle Division, involving the branch out of Fishbach, was the first to go. this line being one of the oldest in service. Cars ceased running on this division on Aug. 3, 1930. Previously, about a mile and a half of trackage of the western end of this branch had been abandoned. This tapped a section where mining families only lived.

The second line to be abandoned was that from Schuylkill Haven to Orwigsburg, on Sept. 7th, 1930. Then the line from New Phila. to Mauch Chunk was closed on Aug. 15, 1931; the Lansford to Summit Hill branch on Sept. 3, 1931 and on Oct. 1st, the St. Clair to Port Carbon line went out of service.

When the line was to be abandoned between Mauch Chunk and Pottsville, a large number of people from that region appeared before the Public Service Commission at Harrisburg on July 1st, 1931, asking for the retention of the line. The company produced figures to show that the line was being operated at a loss and their remonstrance was in vain.

On Aug. 1st, 1931, application was made by the East Penn to remove the rails of their trolley line between Pt. Carbon and St. Clair and to operate bus service. They were awarded the certificate of conveyance enabling them to run busses between Pottsville and St. Clair by way of E. Norwegian St., and Pt. Carbon but protection was provided for Wm. G. Frantz who was operating a bus to Mechanicsville and the Schuylkill Transportation was not allowed to pick up or unload passengers until they had reached the terminus of the Frantz line in Mechanicsville.

On Jan. 12, 1932, Wm. H. Evans, former general manager of the East Penn Traction Co., was made General Superintendent of the Lehigh Valley Transit and Transportation Companies at Allentown.

On April 14th, 1932, it was semi-officially announced that the East Penn planned to abandon the entire trolley system and that application to that effect would be made shortly. Council was informed that the trolley company would bear no part of the expense of the West Market St. paving as they did not intend to use their tracks.

April 16th, the East Penn Transportation Co. sought Public Service Commission approval of the inauguration of bus service between Pottsville-St. Clair, Pt. Carbon and Sch. Haven with two routes between Pottsville and St. Clair.

April 20th, an agreement was reached between the Penna. Railroad and the Transportation Co., by which the Penna. station would serve as a bus terminal.

Buses Supplant The Trolleys

On June 22, 1932, the Traction Co., was given permission by the Public Service Commission to abandon its Market St. lines and on that same date, the Pennsy Railroad was given the right to abandon passenger service on the Shenandoah branch of the Schuylkill Division between Pottsville and Shenandoah and buses of the Schuylkill Transportation Co., supplanted the train service. On June 25th, 1932, the Shenandoah train made its last trip and buses started on Sunday, June 26th.

The trolley service to Minersville and Yorkville was discontinued as of June 30th and buses were also substituted on that line.

Thursday night, June 30th, the last trolley made the trip from Minersville. George Heiser was the motorman and George Hutchinson, the conductor. They left Minersville at 12 o'clock. With the running of the last trip, the franchise for that line which

had been so broad as to allow the running of steam trains over the city streets and had been in existence for over fifty years was relinquished. Aboard the last car was Robert Felsburg, who as a youngster had stood on the sidewalk and cheered as the first car went up Sunbury St., Minersville. He was accompanied by his son, Robert Felsburg, Jr. The abandonment of the line marked a period of civic transportation which at times was as hectic as it was efficient.

Council was informed by the company on Sept. 2nd, that the Public Service Commission had approved of the abandonment of the service, P. A. McCarron of the Penna. Power, speaking for Mr. Dicke of the East Penn Traction Co., appeared at the meeting with this information. The council decided not to oppose the move.

However, council did go on record as opposing the granting of bus rights to the East Penn Transporta-

tion because of the ten cent fare which it proposed to charge.

On Sept. 9th, two lines suspended, the Yorkville and also the Sch. Haven Division and the two remaining branches, the St. Clair short line, via Nichols and the Pottsville to Port Carbon to New Phila. line was discontinued on Sept. 10th, 1932, this ending the trolley service forever throughout the entire county.

Effective Nov. 21st, 1932, the transportation from Pottsville was operated jointly by the East Penn Transportation Co., and the Reading Transportation Co. The company continued its ten minute schedule to Yorkville but the buses to Minersville could not pick up any Yorkville passengers.

The Traction Co. did extensive dismantling. Salvaging of the best of the overhead and roadway materials was started some time prior to the final closing, the first being done on the Coal Castle division. Many hundreds of tons of rails, wire and other materials were disposed of as junk.

The Council required the Traction Co., after the dismantling of the Coal Castle Division, farther west, to rip up the tracks and remove the wire overhead construction along Peacock St. The same procedure followed beyond the line of the concrete street paving on Market, from Sixth to Twelfth Sts., and along other of the city streets as well.

Some of the equipment and materials, in practically new condition, was sold to other trolley corporations still operating cars in the eastern part of Pennsylvania. The better trolley cars were disposed of in the same way, to more or less advantage. Other types of the older cars were sold to individuals and companies in the lower part of the county. A number of them were converted into bungalows at Willow Lake, Deer Lake and other pleasure

and camping resorts in the lower part of the county.

To a considerable portion of the closing years' history of trolleys in this section, and also for information relative to the bus transportation, much credit is due R. E. Felsburg, assistant auditor attached to the offices of the East Penn Transportation Co., in the brick building at Palo Alto. This official furnished facts and figures, taken from his carefully kept diary, which aided much in compilation of needed data and particularly in settling a mass of jumbled dates.

According to Auditor Felsburg's records, the first bus or passenger coach, after the chartering of the East Penn Transportation Co. was run on the newly created route from Pottsville to Minersville on Nov. 27, 1927. After that, bus routes were established at frequent intervals, opening on the following dates:

Pottsville to Mauch Chunk, June 9, 1928; Cressona to Schuylkill Haven, Dec. 17, 1928; Pottsville to Minersville via Seltzer City on June 14, 1929; Pottsville to Port Carbon, Sept. 11, 1932; Pottsville to St. Clair via Nichols St., Sept. 11, 1932; Yorkville route, July 1, 1932; Pottsville to Heckscherville, Aug. 4, 1930; Schuylkill Haven to Orwigsburg, Sept. 8, 1930; Lansford to Summit Hill, Sept. 4, 1931; Port Carbon to St. Clair, Oct. 1, 1931; Pottsville to Schuylkill Haven, Aug. 24, 1932.

It is interesting to state that, in rolling stock, the East Penn Transportation Co. owns, as passenger coaches or buses, a total of 27. These are not all in operation. A total of from 20 to 22 are run every day, and the others are held for emergencies. The present manager of the East Penn Transportation Company is Wm. H. Dinstel, of Port Carbon.

Episcopal Is Oldest Church

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* January 2, 1934)

"The Consistory Board and Vestry of Trinity Episcopal Church at a meeting at the close of the year, elected Rev. H. W. Diller, rector of that church and Rev. J. F. Powers, D. D. Pastor Emeritus." — from the "Republican" of Jan. 2nd, 1903.

This news item from the "Republican" recalled to the reader that the Trinity Episcopal Church history dates back almost to the beginning of the town itself, and among the many religious organizations in Pottsville, the Episcopal Church lays claim to being the "first born."

In 1816, Pottsville was laid out as a village, and the organization of the church followed eight years later. It was the outcome of the labors of a young Episcopal missionary in deacon's order, the Rev. Norman Nash.

One of the outstanding events in the church history is of recent date, this being the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the church under the direction of Rev. Howard W. Diller. The announcement of the coming event was made on Sept. 15, 1927, by Rev. Diller, who appointed a committee to take charge of the anniversary observance during the week of Oct. 9th to 16th.

The Most Rev. John C. Murray, D. D., of New York City, presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church in America, visited the church at this time, attending the pre-celebration reception held in the Parish House, Saturday evening, Oct. 8th, in which former members of the church participated. This reception was also at-

tended by the various clergymen of the City of Pottsville.

On the Sunday morning following the reception, Bishop Murray preached an appropriate sermon in connection with the regular morning services. The evening sermon was preached by the Rev. Lewis C. Washburn, D. D., of Phila., the son of a former pastor of Trinity church.

The celebration was also marked by the second visit within a few months' time of the Rt. Rev. Frank W. Sterrett, who had recently succeeded Bishop Talbot as president of the Bethlehem diocese.

On Sunday, Oct. 16, Bishop Sterrett at the 11 o'clock service preached the sermon that brought to a close a week of entertainment, including a reunion of present and former choir members on Monday evening, reunion and dinner for present and former members of the parish, Tuesday evening, and a Women's Auxiliary session Wednesday night, with Miss Laura F. Boyer, of New York city, educational secretary of the Women's Auxiliary of the Episcopal Church, as the speaker.

But, to get back to the early history of the church. A public meeting was held Sept. 3, 1827, in the log school house which then stood upon the site now occupied by the Grammar School building.

It was decided at first that the new corporation should be known as "St. Luke's Church, Pottsville." In forty days from the time of holding the meeting in the log school house, the cornerstone of the new

church edifice was laid by Rev. Norman Nash, assisted by Schuylkill Lodge No. 138 of Free and Accepted Masons.

Rev. Nash was succeeded by Rev. Corry Chambers, during whose pastorate the church building was finished and consecrated. The church was Gothic in structure, 45 feet in length, 35 feet in width, with a tower on the east end. It had a seating capacity of 500.

A meeting was called on May 1, 1836, at which time it was decided to reorganize under the title of "Trinity Church, Pottsville." At a vestry meeting held Oct. 10, 1836, it was decided to open a subscription list for a new church. Rev. Raymond A. Henderson who was chosen rector to follow Rev. Chambers, resigned on Oct. 7, 1837, succeeded by Rev. Alfred A. Miller, who retired in 1842 with Rev. Jacob Morss being elected. Rev. William C. Cooley was elected assistant rector.

The cost of the new building was placed at \$10,000. So successful were the rector and members of the vestry in securing subscriptions, that in the spring of 1847 it was determined to proceed at once to the erection of the new church. On the afternoon of July 11, 1847, the cornerstone was laid. Rev. Cooley retired and was succeeded by Rev. Daniel Washburn, who served as pastor for more than ten years. Rev. Washburn was followed by Rev. William P. Lewis. In 1874, Charles Barber, a vestryman, placed in the tower of the church a chime of nine bells, as a gift.

Dr. Lewis was succeeded by the election of Rev. Charles P. Gilliat, Ph. D., to the pastorate, and he in turn was succeeded by the Rev. James F. Powers.

Rev. Powers was unanimously called from the Church of the Advent, Phila., to take charge of the parish and entered upon the rectorship the

first Sunday in February, 1885, with Rev. Benj. W. Atwell and Rev. J. P. Hawkes as assistants.

One of the first things to which the vestry gave its attention was the procuring of a rectory. For years a rented house had served the purpose. A subscription was started and a very desirable property was purchased at Ninth and Mahantongo streets at a cost of \$9500. During Rev. Powers' time, the chapel at Mt. Carbon, for a long time unused, was opened for service. And as he ardently desired to build a new chapel at Mechanicsville, year by year small amounts were collected, until enough was in the treasury to buy a lot. The cornerstone was laid in October of 1896.

In October of 1901, Dr. Powers attended a general conference held in San Francisco and while returning became seriously ill with pneumonia. He was unable to carry on the active work of the parish and on the resignation in June, 1902, of Rev. James B. May, his curate, Rev. H. W. Diller became the associate rector of the parish. He entered upon his duties on July 3, and on Feb. 1, 1903, was elected rector.

Dr. Powers resigned and the vestry elected him rector emeritus, with the privilege of preaching at the morning service.

The question of a parish house was discussed for some years, but nothing definite was done until a provision in the will of Miss Ellen Bright bequeathing the sum of \$500 to the vestry of Trinity church to be used toward the building of a parish house, provided that the building be erected within five years after her death.

In June, 1904, the rector began holding services every other Sunday afternoon in the school house at Buck Run and continued these for almost ten years.

In August the plans for the present parish house were accepted by the vestry, C. T. Mould being the architect. Messrs. Lineaweaver, Barber and Dr. James Carpenter were appointed the building committee.

The work of excavating for the foundation was started Sept. 5, 1904. The cornerstone was laid by Bishop Talbot, assisted by the rector, on June 21, and the building was finished and opening exercises held on Sept. 22, 1906.

In January, 1908, the first men's supper was held and it has now grown to be one of the great events in the annual life of the parish.

Palm Sunday, 1915, with the assistant, Rev. Leroy Eltringham, the rector presented 96 for confirmation, "the largest single class" the Bishop said, "ever presented in this diocese."

With the entrance of America in the World War, some 70 young men of the parish responded.

On Monday evening, Sept. 13, 1920, came the death of the rector emeritus. He had been identified with the life of the parish for 35 years, 18 as rector and 17 as rector emeritus.

On October 8, 1924, the rector celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood.

In the summer of 1925, a Daily Vacation Bible School was established in the parish under the leadership and direction of Miss Zettan Gordon, superintendent of religious education of the diocese. Miss Gordon, who comes from Reading, is still in charge of the school, which this past year reported a large attendance and a wide and varied curriculum.

Improvements made in the church auditorium, installation of a new organ and a new chancel brought a debt of more than \$80,000, which in the autumn of 1925 had been reduced to \$65,000. Then under the

direction of C. H. Dreshman, a campaign was inaugurated to secure cash and subscriptions to pay off this debt. E. C. Luther was chosen general chairman, with Messrs. Hanson E. Atkins and Norman H. Rich as his majors. The response was most gratifying, as something over \$52,000 was subscribed willingly and gladly. As a result, at the time of their centennial celebration, the debt amounted to less than \$20,000.

During recent years, St. James' Church of Schuylkill Haven, affiliated with the local church and served by Rev. John R. Ramsay, who answered a call on Sept. 3, 1931, following the resignation of Rev. Wm. Guion, curate of Trinity church, has been extensively improved and renovated, and increases in membership and church attendance have been noted.

Trinity church has a branch Chapel of the Resurrection in the Charles Baber Cemetery; St. John's Chapel, Fishbach, and St. Paul's Chapel, Mechanicsville.

During the making of history in Trinity church the following rectors have served the parish: Rev. Norman Nash, from Sept. 3, 1827; Rev. Cory Chambers, Jan. 1829 to Oct. 25, 1830; Rev. F. B. Cuming, from Nov. 20, 1830 to Mar. 1831; Rev. James DePui, to April 1836; Rev. R. A. Henderson, from May 10, 1836, to Oct. 7, 1837; Rev. Alfred A. Miller, from Jan. 7, 1838, to June, 1842; Rev. Jacob B. Morss, from Aug. 1842 to June 1845; Rev. Wm. C. Cooley, from June 1845 to Sept. 1852; Rev. Daniel Washburn, from Nov. 25, 1852, to Feb. 1863; Rev. Wm. P. Lewis, D. D., from May 24, 1863, to April 9, 1875; Rev. Charles G. Gilliat, Ph. D., from Oct. 1, 1875 to June 1884; Rev. James F. Powers, D. D., from Feb. 1885 to Feb. 1903; Rev. Howard W. Diller, from Feb., 1903 to the present time,

Pt. Clinton Tunnel Eliminated in 1926

(From 'Republican'-'Morning Paper,' January 3, 1934)

January 3rd, 1924, saw a very important project getting under way, for work was starting which was to lead to the elimination of the Port Clinton Tunnel on the Reading Railroad.

This accomplishment which was one of the greatest engineering dreams in the history of American railroading became a reality on May 16, 1926, when the first train proceeded over the new roadbed of the Reading Railroad Co. at Port Clinton, changing for all time the course of the Schuylkill River to make way for the elimination of the old Tunnel that had served its usefulness and had been condemned.

For the first time on that memorable day engineers succeeded in actually altering the flow of a river and, by changing the natural course made it possible for the Reading Railroad to abandon two bridges and that great tunnel that had a length of more than 1500 feet and which was built almost 100 years ago at a cost of \$125,782. The old tunnel as far as the records show was built some time around 1842 when the first train of the Reading was operated between Pottsville, Reading and Phila. The Port Clinton Tunnel as well as the Phoenixville Tunnel were the two big obstacles that stood in the way of railroad engines for many years.

By Sept. 5th, 1924, the work had progressed to a great degree but there still remained much to do before the job was finally completed two years later. The McGraw Construction Co., of Phila., had the con-

tract and it is estimated that more than one million dollars was spent for the improvement.

The job at Port Clinton, which little borough lies about 20 miles south of Pottsville, and about the same distance north of Reading, was completed at noon of the 16th of May, 1926. The first passenger train going over the new fill was timed at 3:32 on that afternoon. The following day all trains were sent over the new roadbed which prior to that great feat was the old bed of the Schuylkill River. The river formerly made a sharp bend at Port Clinton, the river resembling a letter "U." When the railroad lines were laid to bring the anthracite to the tidewater the engineers found difficulty in following the river and cutting through a spur of the Blue Ridge Mountains at the point of the tunnel. Just a short distance below the Port Clinton Station, the southbound tracks continued on the west side of the river and entered the once famous Pulpit Rock tunnel, 1500 feet in length, or what was better known as the Port Clinton tunnel. The northbound tracks were placed on the east side of the river and crossed the river on two bridges, joining the south bound tracks at the railroad station.

This method of operating the Reading trains went on for years until some time in 1922 or 1923 it was suggested that due to the heavier equipment in use at that time, it would be necessary to build two new bridges and at the same time widen the tunnel. If this were not done,

some other plan would have to be thought out. According to the officials of the railroad two alternatives were presented—to rebuild the tunnel and bridges at a large expense or change the course of the river and construct a new roadbed.

Samuel T. Wagner, chief engineer, and Clark Dillenbeck, assistant chief engineer, made a careful study and finally, after a year or more, presented a set of plans to the railroad management calling for an enormous fill to be made directly across the river over which a new roadbed might be built. By filling at the top of the curve, the "U" curve referred to above, eliminating one-half mile of track, the bridges could be eliminated and the tunnel closed forever.

Agnew T. Dice, now deceased, president of the Reading, accepted the plan of the engineers and the work was begun in January, 1924, under the field direction of Wm. McCormick, engineer. It was first necessary to erect a big camp for 100 workmen, transport digging machines and build machine and power shops. For a time Port Clinton, in the vicinity of the railroad, looked like a town itself. For 28 months the work continued during which time 359,000 cubic feet of rock were removed and 200 tons of dynamite exploded to make the fill and close the old river bed.

Early on the 16th day of May, 1926, a track gang of the Reading Division, under I. T. Tyson, Superintendent, made the final connections of the new double track. One of the bridges that was abandoned was completely wrecked and demolished while the second was salvaged and later used. The old tunnel, built in 1838-1842 was closed and entirely abandoned.

By the elimination of the tunnel, the Reading was able and is still

operating train service by way of the east side of the river.

On May 16th, 1924, when the engineering feat was completed, Port Clinton was crowded with visitors from far and near, who had come to see the last blast fired. Representatives from motion picture firms were present to see that the event was recorded for the news reels, and officials of the railroad and their friends were on hand to witness the occurrence.

At a given signal on that day a battery was touched off and in almost an instant hundreds of tons of dynamite exploded. When the smoke cleared away, the course of the river channel had been changed and instead of flowing down the east side of the railroad as it had done for years it now flows on the opposite side. The big change has made it possible for the company to run a better schedule of service at a more economical cost.

What brought about the tunneling under the Blue Ridge Mountains was a snag that was encountered at the time railroad engineers were laying plans for a continuance of the railroad from Reading to Port Clinton. It was seen at that time that a tunnel would have to be cut through the mountain to permit a passage from the other side. This work was started almost 100 years ago and required several years until the tunnel was finally completed. When the tunnel was abandoned in 1926 it was in very poor condition and it would have been but a short time until a great deal of money would have had to be expended for the needed improvements. The ceiling of the tunnel was practically in condition of collapse and it was feared that the tunnel, if it continued to be used, would fall in completely. It was this along with the costs of constructing the two new bridges that made the

Reading Company decide to go ahead with the new plans for the abandonment of the tunnel and the changing of the river course. The company expended approximately one million dollars.

By September of 1924, the contractor was encountering difficulties by the mass of rock that had to be cut away and this work, while being done with drills was a rather slow and tedious task. Dynamite was then pressed into service, and ever so often a discharge of a ton or more would be made, tearing down portions of the hill. There had been 100 men employed up to September of 1924 but the contractor found that the work was not sufficient for that many men and the payroll was cut down to 50 men who remained on the job until it was completed two years later.

Two steam shovels each having a capacity of 70 tons, were used throughout the job. As the rock and dirt was loosened by the explosions of dynamite these shovels would clear it away and load it into cars that had been run into the job on a special siding constructed by the company. It might be of interest at this point to say that the president of the contracting firm, The McGraw Co., of Phila., James S. Farrell, of Phila., was a former Port Clinton boy, being born and reared almost up against the river channel that he had diverted into a new

course. President Farrell was a daily visitor on the job all during the time it was in progress. James S. Donovan, of Wilmington, Del., was the superintendent in charge.

It has been an old saying that the old Port Clinton tunnel was not entered frequently by persons traveling on foot. This was because of its dampness and due to the fact that it was almost at all times infested with snakes. It was a common occurrence for a track gang of the railroad who were assigned to make repairs in the tunnel to kill fifty to 100 snakes before they would come out at the end of a day. These snakes would come down from the Blue Ridge Mountains and drop over the edge of the openings of the tunnel. It was a real rendezvous for the reptiles.

While the elimination of the Port Clinton Tunnel forever eliminated any use for it, it appears that it proved a great benefit to the southern part of Schuylkill County. By the changing of the river's course and the building of the new roadbed that part of the Port Clinton section was beautified to a great extent. The big explosion that caused this great transformation and which was witnessed by no less than 5,000 persons will never be forgotten as the force of the blowup lifted the river completely from its old bed and gently laid it down into its new course or channel.



Motor Club Was Organized in 1909

(From "Republican"—"Morning Paper," January 4, 1934)

"The Schuylkill County Motor Club will hold its first meeting of the new year in the Liederkrantz Hall. . ." from the "Republican" of Jan. 4, 1934.

The Schuylkill County Motor Club has come to play such an important part in the life of the community that it is hard to realize that the organization is of comparatively recent date, having only been formed twenty-five years ago.

With automobiles becoming more numerous and the roads of the county being in terrible condition, the idea was suggested that if the automobile owners of the county were to band themselves together in one group, and, as a club, petition for better roads, something might be accomplished. Thus came the formation of the first automobile club of Schuylkill County—the Pottsville Motor Club, which held its first meeting on the night of June 17, 1909.

The elements played an important part in the organization being called the Pottsville Club. The original idea had been to have it composed of representatives from various parts of the county and named the Schuylkill County Motor Club. When the night of the first meeting came, there was a terrific rain storm and those from towns other than Pottsville remained at home while those from Pottsville arrived at the meeting.

This first meeting was held in the office of Atty. J. H. Filbert in the Pomeroy building. The original idea of forming the club emanated from a meeting of the Mid-Winter Educa-

tional Club during the half-hour period set aside for general discussion. Atty. Filbert brought up the subject of forming a motor club, with a view to securing better roads. The idea was pronounced a good one and Mr. Filbert was appointed a committee of one to send out invitations, inviting the motorists of the county—and there were then but a few of them—to come to his office to a meeting June 17th.

Those who attended the first meeting were: W. L. Kramer, Baird Halberstadt, J. H. Filbert, J. H. Zerbey, R. H. Bergeman, R. J. Mills, J. F. Patterson, Dr. G. R. S. Corson, F. L. Cooch, Dr. Halberstadt, Walter Wertley; J. W. Fleet, R. J. Mills, H. O. Bechtel, W. A. Cather, Dr. J. W. Seltzer, Clyde Allan, Dr. J. O. Rogers and Frank Moyer.

The following officers were elected: President, H. O. Bechtel; Treasurer, W. L. Kramer; Financial Secretary, Baird Halberstadt; Corresponding Secretary J. H. Filbert; R. H. Bergeman and R. J. Mills were named on the Board of Governors.

Since only the Pottsville residents had been able to attend the meeting, it was decided to give the other eighty-five auto owners of the county an opportunity to become charter members by keeping the charter open for several days. The entrance fee was \$5.00 and the annual fee was \$4.00. A club flag was selected. It was of royal purple with gold letters.

It was proposed that a series of auto runs be held to acquaint the drivers with the roads and to pro-

mote fellowship. The reports of the early auto runs in the light of present day speed, are very amusing.

The first motor run of the club was held on Oct. 14, 1909, from Pottsville to Palmerton, Carbon Co. The machines gathered at the State Police barracks at eight o'clock in the morning and went down Centre St., through Mt. Carbon, to Tumbling Run Valley and thence to Palmer-ton. The rules of the run prescribed that at no time should the speed exceed 20 miles per hour. R. H. Bergeman was in charge of seeing that the members were acquainted with the rules of the run and the route. The distance covered was about 80 miles and the machines arrived home at about 6:30 in the evening. There were fourteen cars in the party and among those who were present were: J. L. N. Channell, C. A. Whitehouse, Miss Frances Zerbey, Mrs. J. H. Zerbey, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Bergeman, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Moyer, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Knittle, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Farquhar, Dr. and Mrs. Corson, Lester and Paul Burkhardt, Jos. Patterson, and Harry Greagor, T. Beddall, Robert Allison, R. J. Mills, Dr. and Mrs. Householder, Walter Wertley, Jos. Spurdgein and Dr. Hay, Philip Brenneman, W. E. Harrington, Dr. Hoeffler and W. E. Quinlin. The 15 to 20 mile pace was a trifle difficult for some of the smaller cars to manage, especially through the Tumbling Run Valley, and there was a little delay while the larger cars waited for them to catch up.

On June 10, 1910, the club secured the third floor of the Outlet building on Centre St. for its office and for general club purposes.

The club in its early days as now, made roads and the improvement of them their chief interest.

After nine years of service, Mr. Bechtel resigned and Chas. A. Wade

was elected President of the club. Pres. Wade inaugurated several new features which are still in existence. He instituted the idea of serving refreshments at the close of each meeting and this aided materially in securing an increased attendance. He was also deeply interested in having the club take up accident insurance and although he was opposed in this move for some time, was finally victorious when the club voted in favor of it.

The Club as it grew stronger went after better roads more vigorously. Representatives went before the road committees of the State Legislature and to the State Highway Department, told of the bad condition of the roads in the county and demanded that they be fixed. They supported every movement for the improvement of old roads or the acquisition of new roads and the fine condition of the roads in the county today, stands as a tribute to their interest in this work.

Wm. F. Fox, of Pinegrove, succeeded Pres. Wade in office. Mr. Fox was director of the Penna. Motor Federation which held a convention here which was attended by over five hundred delegates for the three day session.

In 1930, Edward Stevens was named the president at the annual meeting in April at the Leiderkranz Hall on Race Street. Walter Jones, of Sch. Haven was named secretary of the club in 1929. Both are in office at present. Miss Mary Dimmerling was appointed as an office attendant the same year as Mr. Jones.

The office of the club was in the Schuylkill Trust Co. building for a number of years but is now located at 119 S. Centre St.

The name of the Club was changed to the Schuylkill County Motor Club in 1919, when a reorganization took place. The charter was applied

for on Oct. 11, 1919, under the State laws. The charter applicants were: H. O. Bechtel, J. W. Fleet, Harry F. Wertley, Geo. Geanslen, Dr. G. R. S. Corson, Chas. Diamond, Jos. Davenport, D. G. Smith and F. H. Wetter, who were serving as the Board of Governors at that time.

The Club has now extended its territory until it reaches every town in the county and has branch offices as follows: Tamaqua, in charge of Melvin Boyer; Ashland, Edw. L. Burmeister; Mahanoy City, Albert Tanner; Shenandoah, John Miller.

Within the past few months, a new method has been introduced in order to arouse interest in the work of the organization. Meetings have been taken to other towns in the county, Tamaqua and Shenandoah being the first towns to be so honored. There has been a splendid attendance and increased interest noted.

The officers at the present time are: Pres., E. F. Stevens; 1st Vice

Pres., H. B. Shoener, Orwigsburg; 2nd Vice. Pres. and Treas., J. P. H. Bartlett.

The Directors are: G. A. Berner, F. H. Wetter, E. A. Thompson, George H. Steidel, Pottsville; F. B. Nester, McKeansburg; Dr. J. J. McDonald, Tamaqua; Melvin Boyer, Quakake; J. W. Weller, Pottsville; Jacob Eberts, Tamaqua R. F. D.; O. O. Bast, Sch. Haven; Edw. L. Burmeister, Ashland; Harry Kourtz, Frackville; J. H. Adams, Orwigsburg; W. F. Fox, Pinegrove; Thomas J. Evans, Coaldale; J. A. McFarland, Pottsville; Wm Knorr, Tower City; C. J. Miller, St. Clair; R. J. Jensen, Sch. Haven; David Hess, Delano; O. D. Stevens, Pottsville; Johnathan Zehner, New Ringgold; Wm. Scharadin, Orwigsburg; Nelson J. Clayton, Pottsville; J. Noble Hirsch, Tamaqua; John Keating, Ashland; Albert Tanner, Mah. City; P. F. Wendling, Pottsville; John Miller, Shenandoah, and Howard G. Leland, Pottsville. The Solicitor is Ralph M. Bashore, Tremont.



Free Kindergarten Opened In 1897

(From "Republican"-Morning Paper," January 5, 1934)

On Jan. 5th, 1897, the "Republican" contained an item telling of the proposed organization of a Free Kindergarten.

One of the most interesting of our local organizations is the Free Kindergarten Association which has been doing such excellent work for many years.

On Jan. 4th, 1897, a meeting, instigated by Mrs. Frances Boyer, Mrs. Joseph Bright and Miss Emma Pott, was held at the Sheaffer building on S. Centre St. to discuss the establishment of a Free Kindergarten in the borough of Pottsville, for the education of poor children between the ages of three and six. The organization was completed at this meeting with the following officers being chosen: Pres., Mrs. J. C. Bright; Vice Pres., Mrs. Geo. R. Kaercher; Secy., Mrs. Jas. A. Medlar, and Treas., Jas. A. Medlar. Mrs. Kaercher asked to be relieved of office about a month later and W. L. Sheaffer was appointed in her place.

A committee composed of W. L. Sheaffer, Miss Louise Sheaffer, Miss Emma Pott, Heber Thompson, Mrs. J. H. Eastman and Mrs. A. W. Schalek, was appointed to secure contributions so that the Kindergarten might be possible.

Contributions were raised and at the next meeting, it was decided that sufficient money was on hand to warrant going on with the plans and the committee voted to rent a room at the Weber Furniture store on Minersville St., near Fourth,

where the kindergarten should be conducted.

The committee felt that no applicants for teachers under twenty should be considered, since this special work required more wisdom than it was reasonable to expect at that age. Accordingly, Mrs. M. B. Wilson was engaged as the first teacher and the kindergarten was opened on Mar. 10th, 1897 with 25 children enrolled. Miss Weber was elected as an assistant teacher.

The winter term opened on Sept. 7th, with 32 children and that winter, with the exception of one week in February of very cold weather there was an average attendance of 27, showing the interest which was manifested in the venture.

The first Mother's meeting was held on April 20th, 1897 and since that time has been held on the last Friday or the first Monday of each month. Mothers of all the children are invited and they usually talk, or have a story read to them by a member of the Board or by someone invited by them. Coffee and cake is served, this being provided by the managers, and the mothers themselves often send a cake or refreshments, showing the interest which has been created.

In the early minutes of the Association, we find the information that the stove in the Kindergarten room was in the way, so a change was made and a new stove was provided and placed in the cellar of the Weber building. The kindergarten has always been maintained by contributions from those who have maintain-

ed their interest in the work. At one time it was proposed that the school board take over the kindergarten but this was not done.

After the resignation of Mrs. Wilson in 1901, Miss Frances Lowrey was elected as the director and remained until 1904, when Miss Sylvia Ziebach succeeded her. During 1907, Miss Ziebach was on a leave of absence for a time and Miss Katherine H. Powers filled the position as teacher for two months, with Miss Katherine Haeseler as her assistant. In Sept., 1907, Miss Frances Little was appointed to succeed Miss Haeseler and about this time Miss Adelaide Price, of Phila., assisted for a short time.

In 1910, plans were made to move the kindergarten from the Weber building to the new Mission House at 8th and Minersville Sts., where a large room and cloakroom was provided for the children. In 1912, Miss Ziebach resigned and Miss Helen Frazer was named as the teacher, with Miss Marion Clifford as the assistant. Upon the death of Miss Frazer in 1915, Miss Gertrude Berner was elected as the Kindergarten Director and since that time, Miss Gertrude Gregory, Miss Lillian Smith, Miss Frances Swaving, Miss Hannah Reese, Miss Margaret Weissinger and Miss Arline Boone have served as assistant teachers.

When the Kindergarten was started, there was an acute need for it in the neighborhood in which it was established. There were many small children running about the streets, with little supervision of the parents, many of whom were unable to speak English.

Through proper health habits taught to the children in school, it was not long before the children became noticeably cleaner and neater. Through the Mother's Club, the same information was imparted to the mothers

and it was gratifying to the managers to see how eagerly the mothers received the helpful hints that were imparted to them and profited by them.

In spite of the fact that the expenses of the kindergarten amount to about \$75 per month, and that frequently there is little in the treasury to meet the expenses, the Board of Managers has always gone ahead with a sublime faith in being able to continue the work and has always succeeded.

There remain but few of the original Board members, many of the most ardent supporters of the movement having been claimed by death early in the history of the Kindergarten. The loyal support of friends of the Kindergarten has aided the Managers in carrying out their objective and throughout the years they have succeeded in bringing happiness and real benefit to many children who would otherwise have had very unhappy lives.

The Kindergarten is governed by a board of fifteen women elected by the members for a term of three years. There is also an Advisory Board consisting of a score of men to assist the Board of Managers.

Persons may become members of the Free Kindergarten Association by paying one dollar, the yearly dues. The Froebel Kindergarten method is used.

Each day the children are served a lunch consisting of milk and crackers, this being donated by the Board. Celebration of the birthday anniversary of each child is another treat. The child who is observing her birthday is allowed to choose the games she wishes to play, to sing her favorite songs and an extra treat of cocoa is often served with the cake donated by the child's mother.

The picnic in June is a day that is most looked forward to by the children, to which the mothers, baby

brothers and sisters are also invited, and these picnics since the infancy of the organization have always been a big event. They have been held at various parks, in early days at Railway Park or in the woods, but of late have been held on the Children's Playground of the Country Club. It is an all day event, and the children are driven there in cars, allowed to play all morning, being well supplied with suckers and oranges. Luncheon is served them and it is a perfectly grand day. One of the biggest events of the kindergarten history which we read in the notes of the secretary, pertained to the Patriotic Parade held here in April 1917. The children all rode in the parade, and for three-fourths of the children, it was their first ride in an automobile.

Each Christmas time, there is, of course, a tree to brighten the kindergarten, and during the first years of the kindergarten, each child was given a toy, usually a doll for the girls and a toy suitable for the small boys. This party, during recent years, especially since the kindergarten moved into the Mission House, has grown larger. The children invite their mothers and the Board of Managers is present. They sing songs, give recitations, the tree is gay, and each child is given a toy, besides fruits and candies and ice cream and cake. During recent years, Mrs. Edwin C. Luther has donated dolls to each small girl, and Mrs. R. C. Luther has given the boys presents, usually a fire truck, an engine or some other appropriate toy.

Easter is also a happy time, for eggs are colored and ever since the beginning of this kindergarten the children have taken an interest in Easter and have always been given some delicacies at this time.

One of the main events of the year is the celebration of the birthday of Uncle Frobel, as the children call the founder of the method used. This is a very happy occasion, and one looked forward to with much anticipation.

Although the children are of pre-school age, this does not mean that they are allowed to do nothing but play. Each game or song that they enjoy has some special significance, and through play, they learn the real facts of the world around them. Good disciplinary habits are also instilled, and through their kindergarten work they are also taught to appreciate nature, and are prepared for school.

During the existence of the Kindergarten it has done a wonderful work. When we think of the homes that these children come from, and realize the influence the kindergarten has over them we realize what it must be for these children to have this kindergarten, a sunny room, bright and filled with sunshine, where everything is clean and comfortable. The only difficult part is that more of these children cannot be reached. There are chairs for only a certain number of children, and there is always a long waiting list.

The following is the Advisory Board and present Board of Managers: Henry Sheafer, Arthur W. Sheafer, Van Dusen Rickert, Mrs. George H. Boone, Mrs. W. L. Sheafer, Mrs. James A. Medlar, Mrs. Mary C. Thurlow, Mrs. Frank D. Yueungling, Mrs. Edwin C. Luther, Mrs. Frank Parsons, Mrs. C. H. Dreshman, Mrs. Herbert Quin, Mrs. E. J. Bradley, Mrs. W. K. Woodbury, Mrs. R. C. Luther, Mrs. Norman Farquhar, Mrs. Hanson Atkins, Miss Loretto Pepper and Miss Margaret Pepper.

Local Moose Lodge Has 1200 Members

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* January 6, 1934)

"Elaborate preparations are being made for the big banquet to be held by the local Moose Lodge, Jan. 7th, when a \$40,000 mortgage will be burned."—from the "Republican" of Jan. 6th, 1925.

Pottsville Lodge No. 411 Loyal Order of Moose, whose well-appointed property, corner of Centre and Mauch Chunk Sts., embracing Home, social and reading quarters and handsomely-equipped offices and associated rooms, together with the annex, etc., giving the fraternal organization a rating only exceeded by the holdings of the Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Mooseheart, Illinois centers, is one of the most stable in Pennsylvania.

After the lapse of twenty-three years, it is free of all financial obligations. Its bills are promptly paid. After passing through the trials and vicissitudes of three of the hardest years, in the history of any organization, due to the industrial depression, it has, not only, withstood all changes of fortunes but has done so, unimpaired, as to its influence, today having a membership of 1,200 in good standing.

While many fraternal and patriotic organizations suffered, to such an extent that a number did not survive their failing finances, the Moose Lodge met every emergency and paid death and sick benefits as fast as the obligations accrued. The Lodge has aided in all civic and charitable movements and given a large sum, in the aggregate, to aid families of members in distress and needy circumstances.

Unusual in the instances of fraternal organization, as to proving a

public benefit outside the inner circle of their own membership, the Pottsville Moose Lodge generously sized up to an emergency situation which arose, about eight years ago, and made a big donation to the City of Pottsville.

It was when the municipal authorities, in the widening of Mauch Chunk St., desired to take away a curve which, for years, had proved an eyesore and a source of embarrassment, the Lodge, at no cost to the City, turned over a strip of ground, on the southern side of their premises, abutting on Mauch Chunk Street, that had a width of ten feet, nine inches. This enabled the City to make a good job of the street widening, the improvement proving a lasting benefit to the public.

It is interesting to state that the nucleus of the property, which constitutes the Moose Home, was in its time the handsomest mansion in Pottsville and, for that matter, anywhere else in the anthracite region, in the early days when the coal industry was being developed upon the immense scale which the passing years brought to this section of the state.

This mansion was the home of the late Charles M. Atkins, who, with his brother, Hanson Atkins, established the rolling mill industry in Fishbach. Beneath its roof was born the late William, George and Hanson Atkins, Mrs. Phoebe Sheaffer, Mrs. D. C. Henning and others of that large family which, for years, proved one of the important mainstays of this community. Stables of high-bred,

fast-stepping horses were maintained for many years, prior to the advent of the automobile.

When the Moose took over the Atkins' mansion it was transferred intact. The handsome prismatic, multiple chandeliers, more than a ton of the glass being used, which made the north parlor, on the first floor famous for its beauty, was maintained and kept in perfect repair as one of the outstanding resources and show features of the Home. More than 800 prisms comprised the chandelier.

For a number of years the upper floor was used for lodge entertainments, vaudeville and business purposes. During the later years of its history, the top floor has been used for the lodge meeting room, particularly since the building of the annex. State officials of prominence have been often entertained, in the Moose property, and many political meetings were conducted there.

The late State Senator C. A. Snyder, State Treasurer Samuel Lewis and many others were honor guests at meetings. Many prominent banquets were held in the property and Hon. James J. Davis, National Dictator and United States Senator, founder of Mooseheart, made several addresses under Moose auspices.

For some years pet bears, kept, in the open, in cages and a den, on the south side, were a familiar sight and attracted the attention of the entire community. Numerous band concerts have been given on the Moose property and a great many vaudeville and stag functions have been featured by the Moose officials from time to time.

On January 21, 1911, the Loyal Order of Moose was organized with 109 charter members. Up to 1914, the numerical strength had been increased to 567. Throughout its long existence, at frequent intervals, the charter of the organization was kept

open for periods that ran into many months. At the present time, after it has weathered a score-and-three years, the Lodge now has its charter open again.

The officers who were inducted to office, when the Lodge was instituted, were: Dictator, J. Weller; Vice Dictator, Harvey Sabold; Sergeant-at-Arms, H. Sabold; Prelate, H. Quinn; Treas., Harry Christ; Inner Guard, Frank Swoyer; Outer Guard, P. Brixius; Trustees, J. Hoke, H. Bissel and W. Dunn.

In 1914, the Moose gave up their club bar.

The "Republican" of that date published the following:

"It has been learned, from a good source, that a number of clubs in Pottsville, where drink has been sold at conducted bars, will discontinue the selling of such drinks and, perhaps, do away with their ice chests, altogether."

During 1914 the following officers served the Lodge: Dictator, Harvey Sabold; Vice Dictator, Harry E. Christ; Prelate, Harry A. Quinn; Treasurer, Patrick F. McGovern; Inner Guard, Charles Pfeiffer; Outer Guard, George B. Hay; Trustees, Lambert Hess, Sr., John Hoke and Clinton Laubach; Delegate to the Supreme Convention, Geo. W. Skelly, and Alternate, Charles Britton.

On Monday, July 5, 1920, the Moose staged an elaborate ceremonial and associate parade incidental to the burning of the mortgage which had been carried upon the Moose property up to that date. The exercises were conducted at their S. Centre St. Home. There was a large attendance of the members as well as prominent guests.

Early during the year, 1921, the Moose took up extension plans. These were under consideration until, at a meeting, on Feb. 24th, of that year, the contract was awarded to Lambert Hess, Sr., for the construction of their

steel and concrete, fireproof annex, hall or theatre, on the northern side of the property. The original plans called for an investment not to exceed \$50,000 and provided for showers, a swimming pool and dance hall.

The cornerstone of the new addition was laid on May 1, 1921, John C. Tobin, of Phila., Deputy District Superintendent, officiating. The orator of the occasion, then District Attorney, was Cyrus M. Palmer.

It was on Monday, Sept. 5th, of the same year, that the new Home of the Moose Lodge was formally dedicated. The remodeling and improving was done at a cost of \$125,000.

The first officers installed by the Lodge were: Past Dictator, J. Edward Darby; Dictator, Charles Britton; Vice Dictator, Thomas Britton; Secretary, L. M. Eber; and Treasurer, Harry Welker.

During a period of five years, the Lodge conducted its business and maintained social quarters in the Thompson building, now the property Pottsville Lodge, 207 B. P. O. E.

It was on April 1, 1917, that the Atkins' Mansion was purchased as the permanent Home of the Lodge, which paid \$28,000 for it. Equipment for reading purposes and social quarters entailed an additional cost of \$6,000. The building of the new annex followed. Then the Lodge had invested in their splendid properties a total of \$120,000.

When the World War broke out the Moose membership was represented among the regiments that went over seas to fight. There was a total of 140 members engaged in the service. Five of them made the supreme sacrifice.

Steady growth marked the progress of the Moose organization in Pottsville. Its numerical strength, in 1917, was 952 members which, in 1921, had been increased to just 2,001. This was the high mark of the membership which has since fluctuated, and, at present, has dropped a little below those figures.

When the dread "flu" epidemic took a heavy toll, in this section, the Moose membership also was affected. Just 45 deaths resulted. There was paid out, because of the ravages of the disease, a total of \$23,000 as sick and funeral benefits. These were paid for a period of 13 weeks at the rate of \$8 per week. Death benefits are \$100.

The most impressive mortgage burning was on January 7, 1925, carried through with great eclat. There was an attendant ceremonial 700 members participating. The incineration was done by Lambert Hess, Sr., in a silver tray, in the hands of Harry Haak, of the staff of officers. Michael Reilly and William Higgins, assisted in holding the tray upon which the document rested before it was destroyed.

About \$100,000 has been spent, in improvements, by the Moose Lodge, since they bought the Atkins' Mansion for their permanent Home.

Much of the success for holding such enthusiastic interest in the local Moose Order is due to the indefatigable efforts of the following roster of officials now serving Pottsville Lodge No. 411: Dictator, Thomas J. Snyder; Vice Dictator, Irvin Ney; Treasurer, Paul J. Smith; Secretary, P. J. Dougherty; Prelate, Jeremiah Seitzinger; Trustees, William H. Higgins, George Frankenstein and Thomas Toohey.

January a Month of Many Serious Fires

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* January 8, 1934)

In looking over the "Republican" files of years gone by, it is amazing to note how many fires of serious proportions have occurred in various towns of the county during the month of January.

One of the fires which came to our attention was the \$200,000 fire at the Power House and car barn of the East Penn Electric Light, Heat and Power Co., located at Palo Alto. The "Republican" of Jan. 8th, 1917, spoke of the work of clearing up after the fire and of the great labor incurred in restoring to normalcy the section of the county served by this company.

The fire which broke out the night of January 6th at about 6:20 P. M. was discovered in the storehouse under the car barn at Palo Alto. It spread with amazing rapidity through the first floor and burned through to the second floor where the oil soaked floors added fury to the flames. The short circuiting of electric wires left no chance to move the trolley cars for the power was shut off and within a short space of time, the car barn, the trolley converting building, tens of thousands of dollars worth of electrical supplies and tens of thousands of dollars worth of rolling stock, comprising 21 cars and machinery were entirely destroyed.

Pottsville presented a strange sight for thousands of shoppers had gathered for their usual Saturday night shopping and the stores had to scurry about to get lamps and candles to furnish light, for the East Penn supplied the power for the entire town and for ten other towns in the sec-

tion. Manager J. J. McKnight of the Pottsville Gas Co., managed to get up an emergency gas lighting service which was partially effective but before long, the shoppers, realizing that there would be no trolley service as well as no light, started for their homes by whatever method of conveyance they could secure and the majority of the stores gave up the attempt to operate and closed their doors. The streets of the town, in darkness, were deserted and Pottsville went back to the old days when there were few lights.

The power plant which contained the units which furnished the power for manufacturing and lighting purposes, was little damaged and that was able to resume on Sunday. Power for industrial purposes was furnished by Monday and there was a limited car service. Every bit of the woodwork in the car barn was destroyed. The heavy wooden beams gave way when attacked by the flames and the entire structure of steel, in falling, carried the walls with it. Fortunately, the transformers were in a new fireproof building and these were not badly damaged and were able to be put into service within a few hours.

Scarcely had the flames died down until the General Manager L. H. Palmer had placed an order for new machinery and supplies of all kinds and by Wednesday all of the towns were supplied with light and trolley service as if nothing had occurred and a new power house was being constructed.

Heavy Losses At Mahanoy City

Tuesday evening, Jan. 14th, 1917, fire wiped out half a block of business houses, on the north side of Centre St., Mahanoy City, between Linden and Locust Sts., and caused a loss of \$100,000, \$60,000 being in property loss and \$40,000 in stock owned by the merchants.

This was the third fire of that day in the town, the others resulting in little damage being done, but the firemen were forced to work under a handicap on account of the cold weather which froze the water in the plugs and allowed the flames to gain headway. An open street on one end and a well built brick building on the other end kept the flames from playing further havoc.

The losses were as follows: Joseph Doyle Hotel, Abram Guzensky Shoe Store, Thos. Horan, gents furnishings, Isaac Supowitz, dry goods; Harry Gitlen, shoes, Refowich Sisters, art store; Dipper and Co., draperies and carpets; Patrick Dillon, liquor and the Consolidated Millinery Store.

A fire of unknown origin entirely destroyed twelve houses and a shirt factory at Mahanoy City on Tuesday morning, Jan. 9th, 1923, causing a loss of \$175,000.

Starting in the Storey-Hoppes Shirt factory, formerly the old Armory Hall, on Pine Street at about 5:40 o'clock in the morning, within two hours and forty minutes, the factory and almost all the homes in that block were a mass of ruins. The dwellings which were badly damaged were as follows: Asst. Postmaster Wm. Clifford, Richard Meyers, Wm. Richelderfer, Martin Lynch, George Llewellyn, John Rebb, Geo. Stern, David Berwick, Edw. Jones, Edw. Heeb, Thos. Morris, Robert Norris, Frank Warner, Mrs. Clement Piz, Mrs. Jos. Both, and the hotel of Jos. Czikaitis.

Port Carbon Block Wiped Out

A \$75,000 fire wiped out almost an entire business block in Port Carbon at an early hour on the morning of Jan. 11, 1919, and entirely destroyed the 25 year old Emerald Hall, owned by the Miners Realty Co. of Pottsville, as well as burning out a number of business places. The Emerald Hall corner had been recently remodeled at a great cost.

In addition to the Emerald Hall, the fire losses included the Ray Schraedley home and all its furniture, the Dr. Brown Drug Store and the stock, and home of Mrs. Mary McCord, the Eckroth Restaurant, and American Stores Co., the Slattery Pool Room stock, and the Crowley Billiard Room stock, this being a complete loss while the Spencer and Dr. Heebner residences sustained damage by fire and water. The fire started in the rear of the Eckroth restaurant. Mrs. John Brown, the wife of the druggist, was one of the first to discover the fire and even before she could give the alarm, her own home was ablaze.

At first the cause of the fire was unknown, but a quiet investigation was conducted by the state fire marshal's department and on January 31st, announcement was made that Clarence D. Eckroth, one of the occupants of the Emerald Hall, had set the place on fire in order that he might secure the insurance. He was charged with arson and committed to prison.

Cressona Wagon Works Burned

For the third time within a period of five years, The Cressona Auto and Wagon Works was visited by a disastrous fire on the morning of Jan. 6, 1924 and the three frame buildings which comprised the auto works, 21 machines and the old Cressona School House were destroyed, with a loss of \$75,000. The plant was owned by Wm. Seifert, of Cres-

sona, and Albert Tomes, of Sch. Haven.

Tamaqua Bank Building Destroyed

Tamaqua's business district was threatened with destruction by a fire which started in the George Wilford apartment building about 2:15 a. m., Jan. 19, 1916. The flames spread quickly to the H. F. Hadesty building where a hardware store was located and the shells and powder from the hunting supplies and the gasoline, oils and paints stored there added fuel to the flames and before long the Harry Gardner building, and the Tamaqua National Bank building caught fire.

The following were the losses sustained: H. F. Hadesty, building and stock, \$80,000; Harry F. Gardner building and stock, \$30,000; Crystal Palace building and stock, \$3,000; George Wilford, building, \$5,000; Tamaqua National Bank building and fixtures, \$48,000; Bell Telephone Co., fixtures, \$25,000.

The following suffered losses of from \$100 to \$1,000: L. H. Bright Shoe Store, water damage; Surprise Sample Store, water and slight fire damage; J. E. Rosenzweig, H. F. Armstrong and Dr. Shifferstine, all occupants of flats in the Wilford building, furniture damage by water.

Metropolitan, Prudential and Eugene Sowers, all insurance offices, fixtures and furniture destroyed. Attorneys Duffy and Purcell and C. E. Sitler offices, fixtures and furniture destroyed. 'Squire Delay had slight fixture loss, but saved furniture and books. These seven offices were in the bank building.

Life Lost In Shenandoah Blaze

On Jan. 11, 1930, Shenandoah was visited by a fire which resulted in the death of one man, the serious injury of another and a prop-

erty damage which was estimated to be over \$300,000. A dozen families were made homeless and it was necessary to bring in the fire companies from all of the surrounding towns. The fire started in the Spont Manufacturing Co., Inc., a shirt factory, and was discovered by Paul Twardzik at 9:10 p. m. It spread rapidly to a five story building known as "The Incubator." Frank Krushinsky, 23, a fireman, while trying to extinguish flames on the Pulaskie roof, slipped and fell to the cement pavement and was dead when he was picked up. Theo. Williams, Joseph Morone, and Chas. Bickelman were among the Shenandoah firemen who were most seriously affected.

Among those who lost heavily were the following: Zigmund Misewicz, who owned the "Incubator," the Brozey family, Jos. Kweder, Wm. Catek, Stanley Barasha, Enoch Siskie, Thos. McDonald, Mrs. Monica Shumsky, Michael Olshefsky, Mrs. Alice Smith, Mrs. Mary Baxter, Mrs. Eliz. Bartuck, Walter Zalesky, Mrs. Margaret Reardon, P. J. Devers, and the Spont & Co., which alone lost \$100,000.

Oak Hill Shaft Fire

A fire which broke out in the east shaft of the Oak Hill Colliery, at Duncott, caused considerable alarm on Jan. 10, 1931 and resulted in a \$10,000 loss. Twenty-five men who were down in the mine were able to get to safety.

Pottsville Had \$25,000 Fire

On Jan. 16th, 1932, the Morris and Rubinsky building at Centre and Market Sts., Pottsville, were badly damaged by flames, and the loss was close to \$25,000. The Hanin store, Sweetland Confectionary Shop and the Pollack Fur shop, had heavy losses.

Library Movement Started In 1827

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* January 9, 1934)

"The Pottsville Public Library trustees have concluded negotiations for the purchase of the Rosengarden property, Third and W. Market streets, owned by the estate of W. H. McQuail. The consideration was \$23,500 . . ." from the "Republican" of Jan. 9, 1914.

By EDITH PATTERSON

The history of Pottsville libraries might well be called A Hundred Year Struggle for Books.

Few people of the region realize that when youth, money, and ambition flocked to Pottsville in the early days, when people slept on the floors of the taverns for want of other space, there—likewise struggling for a room—was the Pottsville-Mount Carbon Athenaeum.

The first mention thus far found in the press of that day, shows that in April 1827 this bantling library already had to seek new quarters, and that a year later it was planning to build a small library building.

Possibly that 18 by 20 foot hundred dollar building was never erected on the lot Jacob Alter gave the stockholders "free of ground rent" on "Machento Street."

But the courage and foresight of that venture should never be lost sight of, for at the time it was undertaken there were but a hundred houses in this little mining camp on the wilderness edge, and there must have been a great many people who were unable to read at all or only with great labor.

Mr. C. W. Unger has a list of this library's first purchases and it con-

tains such political writings as those of Voltaire, John Adams and Matthew Carey; such novels as those of Scott and Cooper.

What became of it and its books we do not know, but we do know that in 1831 the town had "a circulating library and Exchange Reading Room," and in 1833 there were "four schools and libraries worth \$200" in our tiny city.

Evidently it or its rival was still in existence twelve years later, for "the Pottsville Library" was one of the subscribers which made possible the publication of Rupp's History of Schuylkill County in 1845.

In 1839 there began the lyceum period with its debating and literary societies. These customarily had libraries—although but one in Pottsville, the Pottsville Lyceum, is definitely known to have owned books.

After the Civil War there came another era, this time of commercial libraries—such as those kept then and later by Miss Gill, Miss Amelia Auman and Miss Cassie O'Neill.

The Stockton Library seems to have been the most ambitious of these. It was bought in Philadelphia, or so it is supposed, and in 1877 published an author and title catalog of 105 pages of books of both fiction and non-fiction. Among the latter are those Charcoal Sketches, by James C. Neal, which gives so vivid and humorous a picture of our coal-rush days.

All of the foregoing libraries are only related to our present Pottsville Free Public Library as are the Pilt-

down man and the monkey to a present day Pottsville citizen. That is, they are in the line of evolution, but not in the line of direct descent.

So, too, were the school and Sunday School libraries—which later “married into the family,” however. Many present day Pottsvillers have vivid recollections of the school collection, said to be in existence as early as 1858 and continuing at least for twenty years. First it was at Bunker Hill and later at the then newly built Centre Street Building. Children from the other buildings would be sent down to the “Grammar School” on Fridays to secure from Miss Emily McCool the books which were then carried back for the use of pupils in these other buildings.

But the Pottsville Scientific Society, founded in 1854, was the present Public Library’s own grandfather.

Such members as Dr. James S. Carpenter and P. W. Sheaffer saw to it—when evidently the Society disbanded in the troubled days of the War—that these books were not dispersed. Instead, when the Pottsville Athenaeum started in 1877, these Scientific Society books formed the nucleus of that new collection, just as many of the Athenaeum books have now found their way into the present Public Library.

This second Athenaeum library in our city owed its quarters to Colonel Ramsey’s old Miner’s Journal Building, and to the informed generosity of P. W. Sheaffer, who also placed Col. Hyde in charge as librarian.

The Pottsville Library of today also owes its own splendid building in large part to the generosity and public spirit of three children of this same P. W. Sheaffer.

And now, after all this genealogy and its “begats”, the story comes down to the days of the women’s clubs.

Heretofore the Pottsville libraries had been pretty well operated and patronized by the city forefathers, but after the burning of the Athenaeum in 1892 Pottsville’s one woman increased to at least three.

Not only did these women need books for their own club papers, but by 1911 the school children were also clamoring for reading matter supplementary to their school work.

So the mothers, aunts, and sisters took a hand, and their short-lived Civic Club won its claim to future fame by starting a movement to get this city a library which should not only be public but also free.

Even the Athenaeum had had to charge its teachers and children a dollar a year, and other subscribers two dollars, but now the library enters the realm of public education and recreation.

After consultation with the Pottsville School Board, the Pennsylvania State Library Commission, and the men of their families, the Civic Club women were emboldened to ask for ten thousand dollars to buy books and to run the prospective Library for a whole year.

The now familiar “whirlwind campaign” was put on, and in sums from twenty-five cents up the subscriptions came in, and the amount set was exceeded by seven hundred dollars.

So on November 9, 1911, and under Miss Daisy Sabin as librarian, the Pottsville Free Public Library first opened its doors.

The windows of 218 W. Market Street, once carefully shuttered as became a saloon of those days, now were used as display space for books.

As the years went on books went everywhere, even into the old cast-iron bake-oven in what had once been the kitchen.

Books piled up and books circulated until the Pottsville Library (by

this time under the librarianship of Miss Flora B. Roberts) felt that it must have more adequate quarters in a permanent building of its own.

So ambitious a program in so short a time after its foundation was fostered by two happy auguries for the future: the Messrs. Arthur W. and Henry Sheaffer and Miss Louise Sheaffer bought the present Library site at a cost of \$23,500 and the Pottsville School Board voted an assured annual income of three thousand five hundred dollars.

Mr. Pierce Mortimer, Pottsville's first mayor under its new commission government, went on to New York and secured a \$45,000 Carnegie grant for the building.

Then America entered the World War and for five years the matter rested—though the Library did not.

When building again came to the fore, the library's growth and current prices made the Carnegie grant inadequate, and the Messrs. Sheaffer added to their gift of the land \$55,000 to round out the Carnegie Foundation's allotment.

Harris & Richards (the first named a former Pottsville citizen) of Philadelphia, were the architects of the hundred thousand dollar structure first opened May 1, 1921.

Even the Library's most sanguine friends and supporters had no idea of the vast new volume of work which would come with the new building, nor that the Great Depression would pile Ossa on that Pelion only a few years later.

But so it was, and at the height of its circulation a year ago, the average number of books per Pottsviller was 11.4 per year, or the surprising total of 286,474 for the twelve-month. In addition there were 8,385 books circulated from the High School Library.

Under the close co-operation of School and Library Boards this city

now has a net work of libraries made up of the main plant at Third and Market Streets, a four room High School Library in the great new High School building, a one-room library in the Elementary Junior School building, and adequate once-a-week circulating libraries in the eight school buildings farthest from the heart of town.

Guiding all these various activities are five trained workers from the following institutions: Carnegie, Drexel and Syracuse Library Schools, and the teacher-librarian course at Kutztown. In addition to these there are six other staff members one with a State College summer course, all trained in the Library's own apprentice class and with varying numbers of years experience to their credit.

They are: Josephine Albanese (High School Librarian), Edna Williams (Elementary Junior School Librarian), Edith Patterson (Librarian), Ruth K. Roehrig (Assistant Librarian), Sarah Mervis (Children's Librarian), Hazel Potts Leddy, Louise Bigler, Leonore Bigler McKeon, Eda Petersen Haas, Beatrice Mutulas and Kathryn Snayberger.

But back of all the years and the changing librarians and staff members, there has been the sturdy determination of the city to have not only a library, but an adequate library and backing that determination, in turn, has been a wise Board interpreting the Library to its people and its people's wishes to the Library Staff.

Of this Board the following have been in continuous service since the beginning: W. K. Woodbury, its President, Henry Sheaffer, Vice-President and one of the donors, Mrs. Louise Pershing Carter who made the first appeal to the School Board and Mrs. H. O. Bechtel.

In addition to the above the following are also members of the Library Board:

L. A. BuDahn, T. R. Daddow, Howard W. Diller, Edgar Downey, Walter Farquhar, E. C. Luther, F. Pierce Mortimer, Mrs. Julian Pilgram, Allen W. Sterner, and H. E. Wilson.

Under the roof of the main Library are now gathered its collection—both reference and circulating—of forty-one thousand, four hundred and seventy-six volumes, and many more thousands of pamphlets and mounted and unmounted pictures.

Gifts of furniture, statues and pictures adorn and add to its usefulness. Whole libraries have been given it by living friends, or left to it by patrons of other days.

It has received but one bequest of money, something over \$17,000, bequeathed by that consistent friend, Miss E. Louise Sheaffer.

Under its roof are the libraries of the Schuylkill County Historical Society and the Schuylkill County Medical Society, and even the modern

type of small renting libraries (of which our own Arthur Womrath's was one of the earliest and now one of the greatest chains in this country) are closely drawn neighbors.

Certainly those men of one hundred and five years ago, whether they ever succeeded in getting that "oawk" roof over their beloved books or not, knew a good library town when they saw it, and they builded better than they knew—even though their early specifications stipulated that "it is to be strongly framed so as to bere mooving it required all of which is to be made in a Workmanship Manner."

One thing they planned which the modern city has even yet not caught up with, and that is co-operating with its neighbors of the County—for that first little library was not just for one town alone. It was the Pottsville-Mont Carbon Library.

Economy, evolution, and education all dictate that some day not only Pottsville but Schuylkill County will have a net-work of libraries serving its adults, its schools, yes, and even the sick in its hospitals.



Pass Rigid Tests to Become Mine Inspectors

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* January 10, 1934)

"The Board appointed by the Court on Monday to examine applications for candidates for the election of Mine Inspectors met this morning in the office of John R. Hoffman, in the P. & R. C. & I. Co.'s office on S. Centre St. It consists of H. S. Thompson and John R. Hoffman, Pottsville, engineers; P. J. Curley, Girardville; P. J. Gaffney, Minersville, and John Drumheiser, Shamokin, miners. The Board organized by selecting Major Thompson, president, and Jos. P. Monaghan, Girardville, secretary . . ." from the "Republican" of Jan. 10, 1902.

The foregoing paragraph formed the basis for a brief history of the Mine Examining Boards, which were appointed by court.

Schuylkill County, during the period of the past half century of mining developments, during which anthracite coal was made the popular fuel of the world, was represented by a personnel of mine inspectors who have been outstanding, not only as to their knowledge of methods and equipment to protect mine workers digging deep in the earth, but have proved themselves virile and efficient at all times, especially whenever there was an emergency which required quick and decisive action.

The production of coal in the days that Mine Inspector Samuel Gay, who lived on E. Nor. St., this city, was in charge of what was then known as the Eighth Pennsylvania District, had not begun to reach the greater maximum output of a decade or two later. He was a bluff, hardy man of the mines, who was elevated to the inspectorship by dint of a thorough practical

as well as a theoretical knowledge which made him an ideal official.

It was under his regime that the Lehigh Valley Coal Company carried out their extensive York Farm colliery development. This operation was worked for some time and though reputed to be one of the most gaseous operations in the anthracite field, it produced a large tonnage of coal.

Jonathan Davis was a mine inspector for a short while following Mr. Gay's long tenure.

When he was succeeded by John Maguire, an eccentric Scotchman, the district grew and gained more prestige as a producer of good quality of anthracite coal from mines of several corporations as well as from individuals. His home was on Sixth St., this city, and he, too, showed proficiency in mining developments which during his regime started to increase as the measures of the upper coal fields started to peter out.

During Inspector Maguire's time in office, there was the disastrous accident, in an inner slope of the Kaska William colliery, now an operation of the Alliance Coal Company, which cost a half dozen lives.

In January of 1902, referred to above there were eight State Mine Inspectors who had charge of the safety of the mines of the anthracite region. They were Edward Roderick, of Scranton, who looked after the first district; H. O. Prytherick, of Scranton, the second district; H. McDonald, of Pittston, the third district; Edward E. Reynolds, of Luzerne County, the fourth dis-

trict; David J. Roderick, of Hazleton, the fifth district; Wm. Stein, of Shenandoah, the sixth district; Edw. Brennan, of Shamokin, the seventh district, and Michael J. Brennan, of the eighth district.

In those days, Court appointed the mine examining boards not only for Schuylkill County but for a number of other counties as well. These were named shortly after the organization of the Court, and the appointments were handed down as are those of the various court house committees of the present age.

Then these examining boards comprised the local mine inspector, a mining superintendent, engineer and two miners. The personnel of the examiners required two well-informed practical miners but in the lower section of the anthracite region, the professional mining members were of exceptional ability. For many years John R. Hoffman, chief mining engineer of the P. & R. C. & I. Company, of this city, and Major Heber S. Thompson, mining engineer, in charge of the coal lands of the Girard Estate in Schuylkill County served on these examining boards.

Captain Baird Halberstadt, geologist and mining engineer, now a magistrate of Yorkville, and men of his splendid type and fitness, served as clerk of these examining boards. Examinations had the first part of the period devoted to written work. This was followed by oral questions. In handling the work associated with the latter feature, one day would be occupied in personally quizzing each candidate.

If the applicant stood up firmly after the steady crossfire of questions that lasted for a period of eight or more hours, it was regarded that he had qualified, especially if he had a fair percentage for his written work. Then he would be ballotted for. The choice by ballot, oftentimes took many days. There was

an instance, about three decades ago, when it required 89 ballots until a candidate had passed the board and received their recommendation for an open position as mine inspector.

Court's appointment of these mine inspectors' examining boards was done with the idea of having a different set of officials serve in each of the counties of the region where anthracite coal was produced. The board, in the lower Schuylkill district met at various points but for the most part in the old Mountain City building at the site which is now occupied by the Safe Deposit Bank.

Instead of Court appointing mine inspection boards during recent years, a general board was named by the Governor holding its meetings at Wilkes-Barre. It was composed of two mining engineers and three practical miners. All candidates had to go to that city and qualify for examination. Chas. G. Fromme, of this city, inspector of the 19th district, when he qualified, did so at an examination before the Board at Wilkes-Barre.

This examining board has now ceased to function. The reason is that when the terms of the members of the board expired there was no reappointment or naming of a new one because of restriction of everything that served to draw upon the treasury of the Commonwealth. From the time that the Board ceased functioning there have been no new mine inspectors named. In the event of death or resignation, the retiring official's district is divided among other inspectors so that some of them, in consequence, now have remarkably large districts.

After the death of Inspector John Maguire, Michael J. Brennan was named to fill out the unexpired term as inspector of the eighth district. After that he was a candidate at the polls, to succeed himself, and

was repeatedly elected, having served 24½ years when he resigned to get out of the mines, which were injuring his health, and also, to look after real estate investments which he had made during the latter part of his term, at Miami and vicinity in the state of Florida.

Mine Inspector Brennan started his regime as a State mine inspector on June 1, 1902. He served the district while it was still known as the eighth, and continued his services during its changes to the 12th, 18th and 19th.

It was in 1926 that Charles G. Fromme, of Greenwood Hill, succeeded to the vacancy created by Inspector Brennan's retirement. He had served seven years up to Sept. 1, 1933. Inspector Fromme is still efficiently giving service in the 19th district. Recently his duties were augmented, there having been added to his supervision the mining operations of the 25th district. For a period of 28 years this was looked after by the veteran Chas. J. Price, whose headquarters were in his residential town of Lykens.

Advanced age necessitated Inspector Price retiring from the office which he served with distinction for a period of 28 years. This is where the evil effect of the economy schedule, which did away with the naming of a new mine inspector's examining board, thus preventing qualification of an eligible list of mine inspectors, came in. There was no appointment to fill Mr. Price's berth. In the added jurisdiction given Inspector Fromme is the Brookside colliery in western Schuylkill County, a red ash operation and the largest in the possession of the Phila. & Reading Coal & Iron Co.

When Michael J. Brennan was made a mine inspector, John Curran served as inspector of the 18th district. He and Mr. Brennan jointly

prepared for their qualification before the mine examination board.

After Mr. Brennan served out his appointment covering the unexpired term of Mr. Maguire, Thos. F. Downing was made a mine inspector, serving during the period that Inspector Stein, of Shenandoah, had a long period of illness. Downing, at that time was a resident of Pottsville.

At the time of his appointment he was a mining superintendent for the Phila. & Reading Coal & Iron Co., in charge of the collieries of that corporation in the St. Clair district.

When Inspector Stein recovered and assumed charge of his duties, Mr. Downing went back to his position as a mining superintendent.

However, at the next general election, he was a candidate for mine inspector, running as the opponent of Mr. Brennan. The latter won the election.

For a time after the death of Inspector Curran, his district was looked after by Inspector Evan Evans, of Coaldale. This was during 1915. At a later date, Kyran Donahue, of this city, was made a mine-inspector-at-large and gave able service during the brief period of his tenure in that office.

Though the salary of a state mine inspector is \$4,800 per year, the period that he must devote to acquiring the knowledge necessary to the position, covering many years in the mines, serves to make as long latter years' service as in other vocations hardly probable as in that period of time seeds of disease are sown which bring about miners' asthma and kindred troubles as to health when it ought to be the best.

With the disappearance of the mine inspector's boards, of the old days, there has lapsed a great deal of interest of the general community in watching the state handling of the directorship of mines and mining.

Pomona Grange Was Organized In 1905

(From "Republican"-*'Morning Paper,'* January 11, 1934)

"Penna. potato growers will have their annual association meeting in Harrisburg, Jan. 16th and 17th, at the home of the State Farm Show, County Agent W. L. Bollinger announces." from the "Republican" of Jan. 11, 1934.

One of the first organizations to become of real benefit to farmers was the Pomona Grange, which was organized in 1905.

The Grange is not only the oldest and strongest farm organization in America, but it is the only farmers' fraternity in the world. Its purpose is fourfold: 1. For better agriculture; 2. For practical education; 3. For a better community life; 4. For higher ideals of manhood and womanhood and citizenship. The ritual is very impressive and the symbolism very beautiful. There are different degrees, culminating in the membership in the National Grange.

The Pomona or County Grange is next to the State Grange in importance and influence. Its name is taken from Roman Mythology, Pomona being the goddess of the fruit trees.

The Pomona membership is composed of men and women who are in good standing in their local or subordinate Granges, and who have been obligated to the fifth degree. Schuylkill County has eight Subordinate Granges, as follows: Hegins No. 1242, McKeansburg No. 1256, Friedensburg No. 1291, Jefferson No. 1384, Lakeside No. 1418, Lewistown No. 1639, North Penn No. 1753, and Weishample No. 1898. These Granges have an active membership of over 600. Besides this there is an active Juven-

ile Grange. The present master of Pomona Grange is Chas. Ellis of the Lakeside Grange and Mrs. Maude Richards, of Friedensburg Grange is the Secretary.

Each Grange has its official seal, and the Schuylkill County seal has a sheaf of wheat in the centre, with "Pomona Grange No. 55 P. of H. of Schuylkill Co., Pa.," around the margin, and "Organized Mar. 18, 1905" in an inner circle. P. of H. stands for Patrons of Husbandry.

On Feb. 27, 1903, a small group of farmers from different sections of the County met in Pottsville for the purpose of forming a Farmers' County Organization. Among those attending the meeting were W. H. Stout and H. J. Hummel of Pine Grove, Harry E. Heffner, De Turksville, F. J. Wagner, McKeansburg, J. F. Staudt, Staudtsville, Jared Hafer, J. H. Hoppes, J. M. Hafer, Chas. J. Hoppes and Moses Miller of Kepners, and J. H. Dunkleberger of Hegins.

A permanent organization to be known as the Schuylkill County Farmers' Union was formed, and the following officers were elected: Pres., J. H. Dunkleberger; Vice-Pres., J. M. Hafer; H. J. Hummel, Secy.; and F. J. Wagner, Treas. Various committees were appointed, and a Constitution and By-Laws were adopted, and the scope of work of the organization outlined.

At the second annual meeting held in Schuylkill Haven in February, 1904, the officers were re-elected to serve for another year, and among the new members present were J. H. Schrope, J. H. Baum and James

Wagner. An official seal has been procured, with a sheaf of wheat in the center, and the name, Schuylkill County Farmers' Union, on the margin of the circle.

During the year 1914 the call was issued to the various Granges in the County to send delegates to the third annual meeting to be held in Schuylkill Haven on Feb. 11, 1905 for the purpose of consolidating the Farmers' Union and forming a Pomona or County Grange.

The response was very encouraging, for a number of prominent farmers came to the meeting, presenting their credentials from the various Granges. A permanent organization was formed, and the following officers were elected:

Master, J. H. Dunkleberger, Hegins; Overseer, J. T. Garraway, Frackville; Lecturer, W. H. Stout, Pine Grove; Steward, J. H. Schroepe, Hegins; Assistant Steward, J. F. Seaman, Frackville; Chaplain, J. Shoener, New Ringgold; Treasurer, J. F. Wagner, McKeansburg; Secretary, A. J. Hummel, DeTurksville; Gatekeeper, C. H. Maidenford, DeTurksville.

The second meeting of Pomona Grange No. 55 was held in Pottsville on March 18, 1905 with the State Master, W. T. Hill in attendance, and the following additional officers were elected: Ceres, Cora Mucklow; Flora, Sarah Oakum; Pomona, Sallie Mucklow, and Lady Assistant Steward, Rachael Hamment, all from Frackville. In the afternoon, the meeting was opened in the fifth degree, and the officers were duly installed by the State Master. The subordinate Granges represented at this meeting were: Sunnyside, Hegins, McKeansburg, and Frackville. From this date on, Pomona No. 55 has met regularly four times a year, i. e., March, June, Sept. and December, the last named being the date

of the annual meeting. Special meetings are held from time to time.

At the meeting of June 10, 1905, resolutions were passed commending the work of the Taxpayers' Association, and favoring the establishment of Postal Savings Banks, the extension of Rural Mail Delivery, the creation of U. S. Parcel Post, and the franchising Trolley Roads as Freight carriers. Apparently the Hegins Grange issued a bulletin at this time, and it was voted to change the name to the Schuylkill County Bulletin.

Soon it became the custom to have an educational program in connection with the meetings, and men were invited to speak on topics of vital interest to the farmers. Among the speakers during the next few years were F. K. Walt, of Reading, who spoke on Fertilizers, Editor August Knecht, Pottsville; Past National Grange Lecturer, Mortimer Whitehead of New Brunswick, N. J., and various members of Pomona Grange, especially John Shoener who prepared his talks after careful study of the subject.

At the meeting held in Pottsville, Sept. 1, 1917, county Agent Walter L. Bollinger was introduced, and obligated in the 5th degree. Since that day he has faithfully attended the meetings, and been an active member.

The minutes of the meeting of March 6, 1921 reports all the subordinate (12 in number) in splendid condition, "except Schuylkill and Shenandoah, for which he (James Bichler) has no hope." These had been two of the most active Granges when Pomona was organized, but due to a combination of reasons, they were finally given up, the active members being transferred to other Granges. Four other subordinate Granges were disbanded, Frackville, Sunnyside, O. K., and Pittman, but their members may be found enrolled in one of the active Granges today.

Rise and Fall of Steel in Pottsville

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* January 12-15, 1934)

"The twelve-inch mill resumed this morning at Fishbach. The blooming mill turned out a lot of fifteen-inch shapes for steel beams"—from the "Republican of Jan. 12, 1894.

The paragraph above referred to the days when iron and steel played a prominent part in the daily life of Fishbach and Pottsville, as it did for many years after that date, but now is a matter of history only.

It is now three years since the Fishbach steel mills slowed down to a walk and then stopped. Many times the plant had suspended operations from the time of its founding by John Burnish & Co. in 1853, but this time there was no question that it was the finish. The Atkins Bros. acquired the mill in 1865 and operated it successfully until near the close of the 19th century when the plant shut down for what was feared was a permanent closing. However, the Eastern Steel Co. purchased the old plant, rebuilt it and started up again a few years later. It changed management many times in an effort to keep going, finally operating for a year or two under a receivership. Finally Feb., 1931, it was ordered to be sold. An effort was made by Pottsville citizens to buy it to establish a fabricating steel plant, but the Bethlehem Steel Co. looked upon it as a competitor, bid in the idle plant, ripped it to pieces and shipped it away. They then presented the mill site to the Chamber of Commerce after almost all the buildings had been torn down. The Chamber of Commerce begged

off payment of taxes on the ground that they intended to fill the site with new industries. At this writing, it is just as idle as the day it was turned over. The iron industry in Pottsville dates back to 1839 when the first pig iron was made on the Pioneer Island back of the Phillips and Jones factory present location. It was one of the mainstays of the region for almost 100 years.

There was a mill in Fishbach as long as the oldest resident of that place can remember. It is generally conceded that it was built by Burnish and Co., for one of the earliest streets in Fishbach bore the name of Burnish Street. In Samuel T. Wiley's History of the county, published in 1893 he tells of the purchase of the Pottsville Rolling Mill by Chas. M. Atkins which he incorporated with his rapidly increasing business, he having purchased the Pioneer Blast Furnace and enlarged it. Up to the year 1880, the firm was known as Atkins Bros., the members of the firm being Chas. M., and his two brothers, Hanson E. and Wm. W., the latter having become partners after the furnace purchase. In 1880, Wiley says that the business was incorporated as the Pottsville Iron and Steel Co. with Chas. M. Atkins as president.

In speaking of Chas. M. Atkins, the Schuylkill County History, Vol. 1, 1916, says:

"At the time he came to Pottsville, in 1853, the rolling mills, then owned by Yardley & Co., were about to be sold by the

sheriff, and Mr. Atkins at once formed a partnership with his brother, Hanson, and purchased the plant. Soon after they bought the Pioneer Furnace, opened the ore banks in Cumberland County and the colliery at Gilberton, and completely reorganized the works. From time to time the furnaces were enlarged and rebuilt, their capacity having been doubled five times in the time of Mr. Atkins' ownership. . . . When the works were capitalized anew, and incorporated as the Pottsville Iron and Steel Co., with Mr. Atkins as President, he held nine-tenths of the stock, the remainder being held in the family."

It is very interesting to follow the progress and vicissitudes of the mill along from that time. Feb. 18, 1885, we find a notation in the "Republican" that the Pottsville Iron and Steel Mill was to start operations. There were 600 hands employed there and it was believed that there would be work for several months. The item stated that it was unusual for iron and steel works to be operating as there was a decided lull in the business at that time. From then on until 1891, the mill operated with varied success. Some times there were big orders on hand and they worked full time, at others there was a lull for a time. In 1891, agitation arose for the signing of the wage scale and on July 1st, of that year, a strike was declared when Gen. Manager A. C. Milliken refused to meet the demands of the men. Some of the departments were able to keep on with their work but the majority of them were idle. On Aug. 21, Pinkerton detectives were brought here to guard the mill property, and on Sept. 1st, something new in the history of strikes was introduced when the court granted a rule on the defendants for a preliminary injunction in the case of the steel mill against Geo. Owen of the Amalgamated As-

sociation and thirty strikers, to restrain them from molesting workmen on their way to work at the mill. The injunction was granted on Sept. 14th. The defendants were John Reese, Geo. Owen, David Musket, Benj. Musket, Clarence Robinson, Jas. Eagan and John Weigand. The mill resumed and there was no more trouble.

But, difficulty was encountered and on Aug. 24th, 1894, the attorney for the Iron and Steel Co., petitioned the court to appoint S. B. Briscoe and Wm. A. Atkins as assignees, so that the works could be kept in operation. The company at that time was carrying between 600 and 700 men on its payroll and Messrs J. C. Bright and John M. Callen had applied to court for a bill in equity against the company for the benefit of creditors of the company and Baird Snyder, trustee. It began to look as if Schuylkill County was going to lose another blast furnace. Already, many rolling mills and blast furnaces had been abandoned among them being the Marion furnace at Minersville, the Pt. Carbon furnace and the Ringgold furnace at New Ringgold, all three belonging to the Phila. and Reading Coal and Iron Co.; the Pioneer furnace at Pottsville, the St. Clair furnace, the Stanhope furnace at Pinegrove. The Greenwood Rolling Mill at Tamaqua, the Mt. Carbon Rolling Mill, the Palo Alto Rolling Mill, and the Pt. Carbon Iron Works at Pt. Carbon had also passed into the scrap heap and were now but a name.

On March 23rd, 1895, the clerical force of Atkins Bros. on Mauch Chunk St., was moved to the main office of the Pottsville Iron and Steel Co. On Sept. 12th, 1895, Wm. Atkins and S. B. Briscoe, receivers, asked court for the authority to borrow \$50,000 to pay for labor and material and other expenses made necessary for the operation of the

plant. The court gave the receivers power to execute certificates to be delivered as collateral security for the loan.

Reorganization Saves Mill In 1897

In May, 1897, an application was made to court to have the receivers file an account since their appointment and on June 23, of that year, the receivers, a number of the creditors and their attorneys held a meeting and decided to sell the mill but the sale was not held and on Oct. 23rd, the receivers advertised in the "Republican" for a \$350,000 bond issue, with security offered in the property and franchises of the Iron and Steel Co. Sept. 30, 1897 it was announced that the plan of reorganization had been accepted and that the mill would be authorized to open as soon as the bonds were sold. However, there was a delay in the plan and on June 19, 1899, we find that the court made an order of sale of the real estate of the company.

On Sept. 13th, 1899, the Brown-Shelmerdine Syndicate of Phila., capitalists, secured possession of the mill, having bought up all of the bonds which were outstanding.

On Sept. 12, 1899, the "Republican" had the following item concerning the transfer of the Steel Mill.

"The Brown-Shelmerdine syndicate of Philadelphia, who have bought the receivers' certificates amounting to \$48,000 of the Pottsville Iron and Steel Co., and who very recently secured control of the following second mortgage bonds, Miners' Bank \$75,000, Pennsylvania Bank \$15,000, Sheaffer Estate \$6,000, have now made a break on those who were holding out, and today the bonds held by Mrs. J. C. Lee, \$23,000, Mrs. D. C. Henning, \$25,000, and Miss Elizabeth Atkins, \$22,000, or a total of \$70,000, were sold to H. P. Brown through one of the leading bankers of town. This makes thus far \$166,000 worth of bonds that the Brown-Shelmerdine syndicate have bought up out of a total of \$217,000 issued. The balance outstanding, not yet trans-

ferred to the syndicate, is held by August Heckscher, \$22,000; Wm. Atkins, trustee for Morris Heckscher, \$10,000; Safe Deposit Bank, \$19,000, or a total of \$51,000.

"The transfer of this \$70,000 worth of the Atkins family holdings of bonds knocks the props out from under any future efforts of delay should the present transfer be contested by the Safe Deposit Bank, and Wm. Atkins trust and his brother-in-law, August Heckscher, whose combined holdings amount to only \$51,000, less than one-fourth of the total issue. There is every reason to believe now that the proposed reorganization of the company is assured, based on the fact that the recent receivers' sale was made at the request of the Atkins family, who, through S. H. Kaercher, Esq., applied to court for a sale discharging the second mortgage, and at which sale the property was purchased by H. P. Brown, representing the receivers' certificate holders, presumably the Manufacturers' Bank of Philadelphia."

From this time until May 8, 1901, there was little news about the mill except that the Berlin Construction Co. was operating the Fishbach bridge works and was preparing it to be one of the biggest steel plants in the country.

Then it became known that the Brown Shelmerdine Syndicate had sold their entire interests to a New York Syndicate and in Sept. 1901, the officials of that syndicate made a tour of inspection to the local plant. A complete reconstruction of the plant was ordered.

Satisfaction was entered of record June 27, 1902, on the second mortgage of \$300,000, which served a bond issue of \$217,000, given by the Iron and Steel Co., to the Safe Deposit Bank of Pottsville, trustee on May 2, 1892. The bonds issued on this mortgage were held largely in Pottsville, each of the banks holding large sized blocks. Mr. Brown, subsequently bought up the entire issue, and had retained them until satisfaction was entered.

The mortgage was wiped out by the receivers sale, but satisfaction of record was delayed. The purpose of the satisfaction was to establish a clear title.

Eastern Steel Co. Started In 1902

On June 30, 1902, the Eastern Steel Co., the new company that was to operate Pottsville Iron and Steel works, and the Pioneer Furnaces was chartered at Harrisburg. The amount of the capital stated in the charter application was \$300, and the incorporators named therein were John A. Jarden, Louis B. Ashbrook and Clifford K. Cassell, all of Phila.

Wm. S. Pilling, of Pilling and Crane, in an interview said that the old Pottsville Iron and Steel Co. had been bought from Pilling and Crane by a New York syndicate. Pilling and Crane had purchased the property at a receivers' sale several years before. The Eastern Steel Co. was capitalized at \$2,000,000.

The deed of the old Pottsville Iron and Steel Co. property as sold at receiver's sale in 1899, purchased by H. P. Brown, attorney, and then transferred to the Eastern Steel Co., was reported at the Schuylkill Co. recorder's office on July 1, 1902. A new mortgage was also recorded.

The death of Edward Muench, purchasing agent for the United States Steel Corporation at the time of this transaction, and who died at his home in Overbrook, caused some delay. It had been expected that he would take a leading part in the Steel Mill operations here.

The following officers were elected: Secretary and treasurer, Louis C. Ashbrook. Directors, Jas. A. Burden, Jr., Chas. D. Wetmore, Geo. Sheldon, J. P. Jefferson, Wm. G. Park, Robt. Jennings, Geo. W. Young and Archbald White, of New York; Wm. H. Shelmerdine, Wm. S. Pilling, Theron I. Crane, Edw. A. Muench, succeeded

by Wm. H. Donovan, and Frank C. Roberts, of Phila.

Organization completed, the directors immediately provided for an increase of the capital stock from \$300, as incorporated at Harrisburg, to \$2,200,000, with a \$1,000,000 bond issue.

The Real Estate Title, Insurance and Trust Co., of Phila., acted as trustee, and filed a mortgage on the works in the court house at Pottsville in the sum of \$1,000,000. This was to secure the issue of the gold bonds, which were to be redeemable within 20 years, bearing interest at six per cent, payable semi-annually.

The first mortgage on the Fishbach Rolling Mill property, known as the Mrs. Hanson Atkins mortgage, was satisfied July 2, 1902, by John F. Whalen, trustee. The amount of the mortgage was \$95,985.76, and satisfaction had been entered for this amount in full, therefore allowing the Rolling Mill property to pass into the hands of the Eastern Steel Co. entirely unencumbered.

A number of expert engineers formerly identified with the Pencoyd Co., Phila., arrived here and immediately started an inspection of the mill with a view to getting it in operation. On July 14th, 50 men were placed at work razing the old Steel Mill, which was less than 70 feet in length. The new Steel Mill was to be four times as large. The office building was completely renovated, and John McGinn, former employe of the old mill, was appointed janitor.

On July 19th, a big cupola, between 60 and 70 feet in length, arrived at the mill for installation, in charge of Supt. H. E. Hess.

By August 4th, the machine shop was running merrily, with a dozen machinists at work. One hundred and fifty men were now employed there, and a few old hands of the

Berlin Construction Co. were retained. Repairs were being pushed rapidly, and sections not wanted were being torn out.

Installation of electrical machinery was also started. The Pioneer Island Blast Furnaces were abandoned and this work was to be done near the Steel Furnaces.

A shortage of houses for Steel Mill employes was overcome by repairing a number of houses on Peacock St. The row of houses on W. Railroad St., known as Puddlers' Row, had to be done away with, as the site was needed for the gas retorts.

There was no ceremony or display of any kind when the first bar of iron was rolled on November 11th, when the 12-inch mill went into operation, but it meant that the operation of the Steel Mill was now a reality, and much satisfaction was expressed. The citizens of the town had long awaited this event. The 19-inch mill started up full blast the next day.

President W. H. Gibbons arrived in town on November 25th, was pleased with the progress made, and said that when all the contemplated improvements were completed, the plant would have a capacity of turning out 125,000 tons of finished material per year. James Downey, formerly one of the superintendents at the old plant, assisted Supt. McFadden with the rolling.

Wm. F. Donovan, the newly elected president, made his headquarters in Pottsville, and came here to personally supervise the work.

It was decided that when the mill was completed that the two rolling mills would be closed down and the machinery torn out, as both the 12 inch and 19 inch mills were out of date and not of sufficient capacity to turn out the work which the company desired. They were kept running to

turn out sufficient work to fill a few small contracts, and to supply the bridge works with material to prepare for the erection of the new mill structure. A new 23 inch mill was constructed and preparations were made to build a new office building.

More Acreage Added To Mill

February 13, 1903, the Eastern Steel Mill made arrangements with the Schuylkill Anthracite Royalty Co. for the transfer of a large tract of ground lying directly north of the old rolling mill in Fishbach, between the Pennsylvania tracts to include what is known as the Peale tract and including the properties, tenanted by the Eden and Sowers and Birmingham families. This gave the Steel Company additional frontage on Railroad St., amounting to 500 feet.

On May 28, 1903, twenty pieces of property belonging to the Eastern Steel Co., and including all the properties of the corporation in Pottsville both at the plant in Fishbach and on the "island" in the orchard was transferred in the recorder's office. The one transfer recorded was from "Eastern Steel Company" to Charles F. Hickey of New York City, consideration \$1, and the other transfer from Charles F. Hickey to "The Eastern Steel Company" the consideration also being \$1.

The only change in the title of the corporation was the word "The", and it was interpreted as being a new organization of the company to secure additional capital. On Monday, June 8, the \$1,000,000 mortgage held against The Eastern Steel Mill was satisfied, and the company was free of debt.

On June 15th, workmen started excavating for the foundation for the 100 foot iron stack at the 23 inch mill. Gas generators were to be built, and in the rear of the generators a trestle connected with the Pennsy road so that cars of soft coal could

be dumped into the bins for use of the gas generators. Open hearth furnaces were built.

At this time one of the greatest necessity was more room, and President Donovan consulted with borough officials concerning the abandonment of Railroad St. on the North side of the Steel Mill property at Fishbach. The officials were not satisfied with the previous offer of council to make Railroad St. narrower at that point, and keep it so as long as the mill employed 500 hands or more. They wanted an absolute vacation of the entire street. Council officials would not entertain this new proposition and the matter was temporarily dropped.

By July 27th, 1903, the old rolls and a great deal of the machinery in the old blooming mill had been torn out to make room for large sizes. It was decided to change the old 23 inch mill to a 28 inch mill.

At a meeting of council on July 27th, 1903, the Steel Mill presented the request to construct railroad tracks across West Railroad St., and to maintain gas, air and steam mains overhead. After a discussion, council agreed that the request should be granted, provided that Steel Mill would accept all responsibility for any damage that might occur and an amendment proposed by Dr. Eastman was added that this privilege should continue only so long as the mill employed 500 or more employees. This resolution as a whole was adopted.

Many Changes Made At Mill

From time to time, many changes were suggested by experts who were brought here by the mill officials. They found that the gas generators had been built too high for the open hearth furnaces and these had to be changed. A blacksmith, machine and moulding shop was recommended and two railways were laid on the charging floor of the mill to be used by the

trucks carrying the charging buckets and the charging machine. An artesian well was sunk on the property to provide sufficient water for the operation of the mill. A large 80 ton ladle was installed as well as several smaller ones of 10 and 20 ton capacity.

The building of the stacks and the soaking pits required almost three months. The charging machine was erected on the second floor. This was a monster piece of machinery operated by electricity and running the entire length of the mill building in front of the doors of the open hearth furnaces into which it automatically thrust the buckets filled with iron to be converted into steel.

However, this did not meet with the approval of the steel mill officials and Pres. Donovan appeared before Council and maintained that it was unfair to the steel mill to be liable for any damages that might happen if Atkins and Burnish Sts. were abandoned and he also objected to the clause which required that the streets be returned to the borough if the mill should be abandoned. After several meetings with council, it was decided that the clause referring to damages should be stricken out and the Steel Co. was given Atkins and Burnish Streets to do with them as they pleased. Vacating of a portion of Peacock Street was also agreed to.

H. W. Preston was elected the new president of the company in April 1904 and he then took charge of the company.

The Steel Co. continued to buy up much of the land around the mills. A deal was closed with the Scranton Improvement Co., for a tract of land on the north side of the Penna. tracks, immediately above the new boiler plant erected at the mill. The Christian Showers lots were also purchased. Dec. 8, 1904, a deed was placed on record for the lot in the western

portion of Fishbach belonging to the P. W. Sheaffer Estate, in Ronaldson's addition. The upper Fishbach school property had already been acquired and the school building was placed elsewhere.

August 4th, 1905 marked an epoch in Pottsville history for on that date the Eastern Steel Co., started in almost full operation with a force of over 500 men.

The improvements were still in the course of being made, and a new bridge shop was one of the contemplated changes for the one which was in use at that time was found to be inadequate. Then, too, Council and the company had not reached a definite agreement about Railroad Street. A new engine for the 19 inch mill, to replace the one used by the old company was also needed and was installed within the next few months.

On Feb. 5th, 1906, a deal was closed by which the Eastern Steel took an option on the Seltzer Estate property at the corner of Centre and Peacock Sts., which was then occupied by the Sparks and Parker boiler shops, but the option on the property was not taken up.

Finally on Feb. 6th, the Steel Mill and Council got together on the prices of the Railroad Street properties which included the Jacob Goodhart, Immekeppel, Showers, Thomas, Jones, Breininger and Pennsy Railroad properties, for which the Steel Mill offered \$20,000; the price the property owners asked, excepting the railroad was \$39,500 and the Council committee submitted \$27,850 as a fair price.

In July, 1907, A. H. Beale, who had been manager of the Eastern Steel Co., for three years, resigned to accept a position as district manager of the U. S. Steel Co., with headquarters at Vandergrift. On July 23rd, Secy. E. L. Herndon, of the

Eastern Steel, was made manager of the plant.

From this time on, the mill expanded rapidly until a large number of men were working there and in March, 1910, the payroll reached \$35,000 for a two weeks pay. By this time, another open hearth furnace was necessary and another soaking pit, making a total of four.

It was in 1911 that the Eastern Steel took over the Warwick Iron and Steel Co., and the capacity of the plant was nearly doubled. It was on January 18, 1912, that the stockholders of the Warwick Iron and Steel Co., voted unanimously to ratify the action of the directorate in accepting the offer of the Eastern Steel to rent their property and eventually to purchase it.

During the World War, the mill was kept busy with orders of different kinds. In 1915, they were engaged in turning out a large order of steel cars for Russia.

More Employees Added To Payroll

On Dec. 8, 1915, the announcement was made that a half million dollar addition was to be built to the steel mill which would give employment to 1,000 more hands. Council was asked to vacate Skidmore St. and at their meeting on that date, an ordinance providing for this was introduced. The vacation of this street was to make possible the building of a 2,000 foot addition to the mill.

In August, 1917, the capacity of the mill was again enlarged by installing a steel maker or converter.

There was a delay in the vacation of the street, and in July 1920, the Steel Mill authorities notified the Mayor that they must have immediate action about the vacating of Skidmore St., so that they could enlarge or else that it would be necessary for them to leave town and go elsewhere to secure room. The request for Skidmore St. had been made

five years before this time and no action had been taken on it.

The daily payroll at the steel mill at that time was about \$3500. The matter of the streets was taken up by Council on July 13th, 1920 and three ordinances were introduced, one providing for the vacation of the northern part of Doerflinger St. from Weissinger Bros. packing house to the north side of W. Railroad Sts., Sixth Ward; the second providing for the vacation of Skidmore Street from the north side of Peacock St., to the north side of Railroad St., and the third, for the vacation of 720 linear feet of West Railroad St., westward from the east side of Skidmore St.

The Council, at their meeting on Oct. 12th, 1920, voted two streets to the Eastern Steel but refused the request for Doerflinger St. However, at a later date, Council reconsidered and on Nov. 9th, they voted to vacate Doerflinger St., as requested Jan. 9, 1926, the "Republican" contained the following announcement:

"Phila., Jan. 9, 1926—In a friendly suit to conserve assets worth nearly \$12,000,000 and protect them against depreciation because of temporary embarrassment, Federal Judge Dickinson appointed Edward L. Herndon, receiver in equity for the Eastern Steel Co. of Pottsville. The difficulty with the company according to a bill in equity filed by W. J. Rainey, Inc., of Wilmington, a creditor, claiming \$45,605, is a lack of cash. It was expected, however, that through reorganization or sale of some of its plants the company will soon be able to pay its creditors and have left a substantial part of its assets for stockholders."

Mill Suffers Severe Losses In 1931

On Oct. 1st, 1927, Mr. Herndon reported that the mill had suffered operating losses of more than \$19,000 in July and August and as there was apparently no improvement in conditions, he asked the U. S. District Court for instructions whether he

should continue, discontinue or modify the basis on which he had been operating.

On April 2, 1930, the "Republican" announced:

"E. L. Herndon submits his report for the year, showing the plant operated at a pleasing profit during that period. However, the report for the month of January of the present year, shows a loss. He submits to the creditors of the company four propositions upon which their vote is solicited. One is an early sale for cash, another an early sale to a committee representing creditors under a plan for the exchange of claims for new securities, the indefinite postponement of sale to a time when conditions will be more favorable, and fourth the return of the property to the corporate management, and for that period the creditors shall be willing to extend for not less than five years, payment of their claims."

From then on until Jan. 1931, little was heard about the mill. The mill was working but was slowly discontinuing some of the departments until there were only a small number of men employed there compared to the large amount of former years when the mill was in its heyday.

On Jan. 9th, 1931, Roland S. Morris, a member of the law firm of Duane, Morris and Heckscher, of Phila., was appointed Master by the U. S. District Court for the sale of the mill property. It was then understood that following the sale, the Phila. financial interests would back the mill after a reorganization had taken place. However, the master was at a standstill for a while, while a committee of the Chamber of Commerce and the banks were working on a plan of reorganization.

There was a decided feeling in Pottsville that the citizens should do everything possible to keep this industry, employing so many people. An enthusiastic meeting was held at the Necho Allen Hotel on Feb. 19th, 1931, at which time the matter of

the formation of a new company to operate the mill was brought up. There was an immediate response and before the meeting was over, \$52,500 of the \$75,000 fund which was needed was raised by subscriptions of those present, and before the next day, all but \$6,000 of the money had been raised and it was known where the balance could be secured.

It was proposed to have the new company organize at once so that when the mill closed on March 1st, as had been announced, it would only be a short time until it would reopen and employ more men than ever. The proposed new company consisted of Felton Bent, Vice-Pres. and C. A. Bonyun, Treas. The directors were to be Felton Bent, C. A. Bonyun, Winthrop Sargent, Jr., J. V. W. Reynders with three directors representing the Banks of Pottsville. The plant then consisted of 54 acres of land, owned in fee, and included six basic open hearth steel furnaces with an annual capacity of 225,000 tons, a blooming mill, two rolling mills and a structural shop.

Less than 48 hours after the proposition had been submitted, the people of the community had subscribed \$100,700, exceeding the amount required by \$25,700.

Reorganization Meeting Unsuccessful

Feb. 21st, 1931, representatives of the bondholders of the Eastern Steel and the new corporation about to be formed held a meeting in New York for the purpose of purchasing the interests of the old bondholders and reorganizing the company. By this time, the amount subscribed by the Pottsville people had reached \$107,700.

But the negotiations were unsuccessful and some time later, the sale of the plant was set for April 21, 22nd and 23rd, on the premises of the plant by a Phila. auctioneering company. The property was secured by Alexander Luria and on April 27th, the formal announcement was made that Luria had disposed of all his interests in connection with the Eastern Steel Co., to the Bethlehem Steel Co. The statement issued by the Bethlehem Steel, left no doubt as to the future of the mill for they said that they had not acquired the property with the intention of operating it, but for the purpose of removing all useful machinery and equipment to one of their other plants elsewhere.

The deed conveying title of the Eastern Steel Mill to the Bethlehem Steel was recorded at the county recorder's office on June 19, conveying the property to the Bethlehem Steel for the sum of \$500,000.

A protest was entered at Washington, D. C., claiming that the sale of the mill was in violation of the anti-trust law, but on July 22nd, 1931, the sale was confirmed by the Justice Department. A protest against the sale had been carried to President Herbert Hoover by Congressman G. F. Brumm, claiming that the plant was purchased by the Bethlehem Steel through an intermediary for the purpose of junking it and lessening competition. The case was referred to the Department of Justice who ruled that the sale was not in violation of the Anti-Trust laws.

After the plant had been scrapped, the Bethlehem Steel deeded the tract over to the city of Pottsville, placing it in the hands of the Chamber of Commerce on May 25th, 1932.

Shakespeare Society 59 Years Old in 1934

(From "Republican"—"Morning Paper," January 16, 1934)

"The Schuylkill Students Shakespeare Society will hold its meeting this Tuesday evening at the home of Mrs. T. R. Daddow."
—From the "Republican" of Jan. 16, 1934.

The Shakespeare Society of Pottsville, has had a very interesting history. Fifty-nine years ago six young women, gay in their full dresses and ruffled petticoats, their hair tightly curled or sleekly straight, met at a certain old homestead in Pottsville and held the first meeting. Sarah J. Elliott and Sarah S. Hill, then quite young girls, were the founders of the society in 1875 and it became a member of the General Federation in April 1890, and of the State Federation in October of 1895.

These two young girls decided to form a literary club. The Society first became known as the Single Sisters Shakespeare Society and at times, we are told, was referred to as the Single Sisters of the Shabby Shoes, by ungallant swains who mocked the young women for becoming literary. It was not a common happening at that time for young women to voluntarily seek to follow the study of Shakespeare.

Well, these young girls then met every Wednesday evening at the home of one of the members. There were only six members when it first commenced and for the first two years, they studied nothing but Shakespeare, reading practically all of his works. When these were exhausted they commenced to study English and American authors, Travels in Europe, Neth-

erlands and France, this last occupying two years of study.

They did not—and they follow the same practice now—confine themselves to a single textbook but rather they studied everything connected with the country, its geography, production, politics, great men in art and, in fact, anything of interest that they may find about the country upon which they were concentrating. They prepare papers on different subjects. It may happen to be an account of the different cathedrals, or a sketch of the painters of a century. These papers require much reading in the course of preparation and mean labor to arrange and condense.

At first, for a great many years, a married woman was not eligible to be a member of this somewhat exclusive society, but if a member was married after being elected, she still retained her membership. However, they outgrew that idea and Mrs. Frank Powers was the first married woman elected and shortly afterwards, Mrs. James A. Medlar was also admitted to membership. At the present time, the society is limited to thirty members.

A very interesting account of the society, which has since been named the Schuylkill Shakespeare Students Society, was published in a paper in 1889. The society flower is forsythia and the colors, yellow and blue. In this article, it stated that at that time it was unknown that a women's club of this kind, with its object not merely enjoyment, should last for fifteen years. Little did the writer realize that the Society would last

more than half a century without the enthusiasm waning in the slightest degree! This same article told of a Valentine party which was held that year. It was the custom to hold a social about once a year and in that year, a St. Valentine's party was chosen. Supper was served and each person present wrote a poem, the prize for the best poem being awarded to Miss Mary Chase, who is now Mrs. Mary Thurlow.

Usually, the meetings are closed—as closed as a closed book—and no one but a member is allowed to enter the doors of the hostess for that evening. However, they hold "open meetings" once in a while, where there is some special speaker on the program, and sometimes the public is invited and at other times, the members are allowed to invite guests.

The first known open meeting of this society was held away back in 1889, when the club had grown larger than its original number of six members. The meeting was to have been in the form of a coffee supper and was to have been held in the woods, but the weather interfered with the plans.

In order not to disappoint the guests, this meeting was held at the home of the Misses Roads. Miss Emma Pott, the president of the society at that time, had with her as her guest, Mrs. Thomas, President of the Sorosis Club of New York. Mrs. Thomas was well known in this community as she was the sister of the late Honorable Robert M. Palmer. She was a woman of rare intelligence and, having had great opportunity of study, travel and culture, was a most charming companion. While in England, some years before her visit to Pottsville, she became acquainted with George Elliot and since that time had visited and corresponded with her friend. She also met Mrs. Browning several times in her in-

valid rooms at Florence and described her as the incarnation of poetical beauty.

Being warmly interested in women, she was pleased to find that there was in Pottsville a society which had been in existence for fifteen years and she urged the women to incorporate themselves at once as a club since from the scope of their work this was a better title. She created some amusement when she earnestly said that, as matters stood, they could not accept any money or property willed to them and that no party of twenty-five men would have gone on so many years as an unincorporated body. As an outgrowth of this meeting, the society became affiliated with the General Federation.

The society has never stopped its practice of having famous persons lecture to the members several times a year at their open meetings.

The first president of the society was Miss Sarah Hill, one of the founders. Miss Marie Belleville, now Mrs. Wesley K. Woodbury, Mrs. Frank Carter, one of the charter members and Miss Emma Pott were among the early officers.

In the early days, it was the custom to have the President plan the program for the next meeting but later, a program for the entire year was mapped out and the members knew what their subject was to be and at which meeting they were to speak.

Practically the same routine has gone on in the society for years. The meeting nights was changed to Tuesday night each week. When there is a vacancy, new members are taken in but thirty members is the limit. The members gain much knowledge through the papers they read and through the current events which the hostess gives each week and it is a society of which Pottsville may well be proud.

Pottsville Hospital Founded in 1895

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* January 17-18, 1934)

"A meeting was held in the office of Guy E. Farquhar, Esq., last night for the purpose of considering a permanent hospital in Pottsville," from the "Republican" of Jan. 17, 1895, telling of the meeting which later resulted in the founding of the Pottsville Hospital.

With three splendid hospitals now located in the City of Pottsville, it seems difficult to picture the time when there was no place to which a person who was seriously ill or injured could be taken for expert medical attention.

The early residents of the town realized the need for some institution of this kind as early as 1848, for about that time we find that there was an epidemic of cholera in various parts of the country. Pottsville also had some deaths from it and there were a number of cases reported. The Sanitary Committee, which later grew into the Board of Health, was ordered by council to fit out several rooms where persons having no homes would be taken for treatment and proper care. The records are meagre as to how the project worked out or how many persons were treated.

On Aug. 12, 1848, Dr. G. W. Knoble, of Pottsville, made the announcement through the public press that he had perfected arrangements for opening a hospital for those injured in the mines. It was to be run on the plan of a beneficial lodge, with \$3 as the annual fee entitling the person to treatment when ill.

In Feb. of 1849, the matter was evidently still showing success for then a house was secured between Minersville and Pottsville, at Deer

Park, which was to be used as a miner's hospital. The home was one which was formerly occupied by Geo. W. Farquhar and the hospital was to be ready for occupancy about April 1st. During the prevalence of cholera that year, the council made a motion that the Board of Health should make use of Dr. Knoble's hospital for the care of cholera patients but that is all that was heard of the hospital from that time forth.

Then, the matter was allowed to rest for a number of years until about 1894. The Ashland Hospital was taking care of the north of the mountain patients but the institution was already overcrowded and there was scarcely any room for those patients from south of the mountain to be admitted. It was frequently necessary for the Pottsville people to go to Phila. to get attention. The absolute need of a hospital was forcibly brought to the minds of Pottsville people when a typhoid epidemic broke out in the southern end of the town, in the little borough of Mount Carbon where contaminated water and improper drainage brought about a condition which quickly became serious.

The Pottsville doctors did all they could to alleviate the conditions but it was imperative that there be some place where those affected could be given proper attention and be isolated from their families. Dr. James S. Carpenter, father of Dr. James Stratton Carpenter (now a practicing physician in Pottsville) realized the gravity of the situation and volunteered to open an emergency

hospital in Mount Carbon and stay there as a resident physician. There were already about sixty cases of typhoid. The Mount Carbon Board of Health took action at once and the seed which grew into the Pottsville Hospital was planted.

The "Republican" of Nov. 29, 1894, contained this item:

"The first step was taken yesterday, when the hospital for the use of the fever-stricken sufferers was opened on the East Side in the Sullivan cottage, Mount Carbon, and six patients made as comfortable as possible. The ambulance at the almshouse was kindly loaned by Steward Hartman for that purpose. Dr. J. S. Carpenter supervised the work of removal. More of the patients will be removed to the hospital today. There is a total of 76 patients."

On the night of Jan. 16th, 1895 a meeting was held at the office of Guy E. Farquhar for the purpose of considering establishing a permanent hospital in Pottsville. The experience at Mt. Carbon had proven that such a step was necessary. In addition to Mr. Farquhar, there was present at the meeting Messrs. B. I. Sheafer, P. A. Roth, S. H. Kaercher, L. T. Medlar, W. G. Hoeffler, W. L. Sheafer, J. P. Jones and Gen. J. K. Sigfried.

A week later, the men again assembled and drew up articles of the association and elected a Board of Managers as follows: S. H. Kaercher, Gen. Sigfried, E. J. Gaynor, August Knecht, Lewis Stoffregen, F. G. Yuengling, W. G. Hoeffler, G. F. Morgan, Wm. L. Sheafer, B. I. Sheafer, J. P. Jones, L. T. Medlar, P. A. Roth, Guy E. Farquhar, Heber S. Thompson, Roland C. Luther, John W. Beecher, G. C. Schrink, S. B. Briscoe and A. S. Faust.

After discussing the various sites offered, the purchase of the Lauer Mansion and two-and one-half acres of the Snyder estate adjoining for \$14,000 was agreed upon. The Lauer mansion on Mauch Chunk St. occu-

pied an historic spot for it was here that Jeremiah Reed, the first child to be born in Pottsville, saw the light of day. Samuel S. Shippen and his sister, Miss Elizabeth S. Shippen, of Phila., related to the Carpenter family, promised the sum of \$30,000 for the purchase and maintenance of the hospital, in memory of their father, John Shippen and wife, Mary McCall Shippen.

The directors met on March 5th and elected the following officers under the new charter, Pres., Guy E. Farquhar, Treas., S. H. Kaercher and Secy., Wm. L. Sheafer. The Legislative Committee consisting of Gen. Sigfried, chairman, Guy E. Farquhar, W. L. Sheafer, Heber S. Thompson and E. J. Gaynor left for Harrisburg the next day to meet the Board of Public Charities and the Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives to seek State appropriation of \$30,000.

The deed transferred the Lauer Mansion title from the Real Estate Title Insurance and Trust Co., and Baird Snyder, wife and sister as the executors of the Snyder estate. The Lauer Mansion occupied half an acre of ground and there were thirteen rooms in the main building for use of the hospital.

Ladies Auxiliary Formed

On April 25th, a number of Pottsville women met in the Sheafer building to form a Ladies' Auxiliary. Mrs. S. B. Briscoe was elected temporary President and Miss Sarah A. McCool, temporary secretary. The following were then selected to serve with the officers as a committee on organization: Mrs. Guy E. Farquhar, Mrs. L. C. Thompson, Mrs. Edw. Schartle, Mrs. Jos. Longinus, Mrs. M. P. Quinn, Mrs. Wm. Firey, Mrs. A. T. Hanna, Misses Hinterleitner, Agnes Medlar, and Miss Diener, with others to be selected later.

The purpose of the organization was to cooperate and assist the Board of Managers of the hospital in the care and maintenance of the institution. The permanent officers elected consisted of: Mrs. S. B. Briscoe, president; Mrs. J. H. Umbenhen, vice-president; Miss Sarah McCool, secretary, and Miss Manah D. Garretson, treasurer.

The charter members who joined at the first meeting were: Mrs. Guy E. Farquhar, of the Episcopal Church; Mrs. L. C. Thompson, First Presbyterian; Mrs. S. H. Kaercher, Second Presbyterian; Mrs. J. W. Beecher, Methodist; Mrs. Edw. Schartle, Trinity Reformed; Mrs. Jos. Longinus, St. John's; Mrs. M. P. Quinn, St. Patrick's; Miss Annie G. Hinterleitner, Trinity Lutheran; Mrs. M. J. Firey, English Lutheran; Miss Agnes Medlar, English Lutheran; Mrs. T. A. T. Hanna, Baptist, and Miss Emma Diener, German Reformed. At the next meeting of the organization on May 10th. the number was increased to 25, including Mrs. A. C. Milliken, Mrs. J. Harry Super, Mrs. J. S. Newhart, Mrs. Jas. A. Archbald, Mrs. A. D. Chodowski, Miss Mary Ruhl, Mrs. Lewis Grant, Mrs. A. W. Schalek, Mrs. J. P. Jones, Mrs. Chas. H. Woltjen, Miss Mary Wetzell, Mrs. Wm. L. Sheafer and Mrs. J. V. Wingert. Mrs. Firey and Mrs. Newhart decided to drop out later.

At a meeting of the hospital directors on July 8th, the decision was made to erect a two-story brick annex to the hospital. On Saturday afternoon, July 20th, the public was invited to visit the institution before the formal opening for the reception of patients on the following Monday, July 22nd.

The working force of the new hospital consisted of: Superintendent, Miss Elizabeth Evans; assistant nurse, Miss Jeannette Flynn; student nurse, Miss May Sturman, (now

Mrs. Wm. M. Thompson); clerk, Miss Lottie Christian; resident physician, Dr. Harry W. Deckert, Sch. Haven, and orderly, Chas. T. Warren.

The first annual meeting of the managers of the hospital was held on March 11, 1896, with Rev. Eastman, of the First Presbyterian Church, presiding, and W. L. Sheafer as secretary. Treasurer S. H. Kaercher's report showed that the total receipts for the year were \$43,413.32, and the expenditures \$41,690.60, leaving a balance of \$1,772.72. The superintendent's report showed that during the seven months, 105 patients were cured; 12 improved, and there were eight deaths. Surgical cases numbered 112; medical, 123; operations, 69. Contrast this with almost 3,000 cases treated in 1933.

At the meeting of the directors on April 15, 1896, the board was reorganized, with Messrs. Farquhar, Sheafer and Kaercher being re-elected as president, secretary and treasurer, and J. P. Jones was elected as vice-president.

On Jan. 11, 1897, Miss Evans resigned as superintendent, and Miss Effie F. Darling was appointed on February 16th. In October, the Board of Managers decided to accept the plans for a new laundry building.

Receives \$20,000 Endowment

In January of 1898, the hospital received word from Miss Elizabeth Shippen that the hospital had received a \$20,000 endowment. In April, 1898, the Board of Managers elected officers, and J. H. Super was elected treasurer to succeed Mr. Kaercher, who declined reelection. The report at this time showed that the monthly admissions to the hospital were about 25 patients. The average number treated daily was 28, and the average cost per patient a day was \$1.31. Miss Matilda King, of Tamaqua, was accepted as a stu-

dent nurse. The School of Nurses was started on June 16, 1898, with six student nurses.

The "Republican" of April 12, 1898, had the following item:

"Action was taken that the Board of Physicians and Surgeons on the staff, when not on duty, be allowed to place patients in the general wards of the hospital at the rate of \$7.00 per week, to be considered their patients, and to be attended by them and with the understanding that when the use of the operating room is required for such cases, it is to be used so as not to inconvenience or interfere with the work of the physicians and surgeons then on duty in the hospital."

The new addition to the hospital was completed by this time, and was proving a great convenience.

On Jan. 9, 1899, Wm. G. Yuengling left \$5,000 to the hospital in his will, Mr. Yuengling being a member of the board. The money was used for the erection of a home for the superintendent and the nurses, known as the Wm. G. Yuengling Memorial. The contract for the building was given to L. T. Medlar, who bid \$4,900 on April 10th.

Dr. J. S. Parker resigned as resident physician on May 9, 1899. During the Spanish American War and directly afterwards, a number of sailors and soldiers were brought home from camps and from Porto Rico, and cared for at the hospital. With the money realized from the care of these patients, a new sterilizing system, costing \$15,000 was purchased.

The staff on duty at the hospital was Dr. A. H. Halberstadt, surgeon; Dr. Wm. H. Robinson, physician; Dr. G. H. Halberstadt, specialty physician, and Dr. T. C. Fegley, resident physician.

On Jan. 8, 1900, the Nurses' Home was accepted from Contractor Medlar, and was ready to be occupied in the spring. As soon as the home

was ready, the nurses dormitory was used for patients. The estate of Mrs. Harriet N. Sheaffer contributed \$1,000 for the plumbing and heating in the Nurses' Home, and Andrew Robertson furnished the home at his own expense.

Dr. W. H. Robinson succeeded Dr. C. D. Miller as physician on September 2, 1900; Dr. G. H. Halberstadt succeeded Dr. Victor Roth, and Dr. A. H. Halberstadt, Dr. P. H. O'Hara as surgeon.

Nurses' Home Opened May 1900

On May 10, 1900, the new home for the nurses was formally opened. The architect for the building was C. T. Mould, of Pottsville. There were 14 rooms for the nurses, a general sitting room, a reception room, three baths and a linen closet. May 14, 1900, Dr. F. B. Sandt, of Easton, succeeded Dr. T. C. Fegley as resident physician.

In 1901, the period of the nurses' course was extended to three years, and by this time, the daily average of patients was 21. In 1903, the hospital was remodeled and new wards added. During 1906, the staff of physicians in charge of the hospital work consisted of Dr. J. P. Swaving, surgeon; Dr. A. L. Gillars, physician, and Dr. G. R. S. Corson, specialist. On the 1st of July, of that year, Dr. O. J. Carlin became the physician in place of Dr. Gillars.

In 1909, the Nurses' Alumnae Association was organized and the members of this association, which is still very active, contribute to the Householder scholarship, to the Moore library and aid in the extra-curricular activities of the hospital, carrying on their own relief fund for sick members.

Sept. 1, 1910, Miss Darling resigned and Miss Edith A. Loomis of Albany was selected in her place. It was during this year that the new

nurses' home was opened, the former home being altered to meet the requirements of a maternity department. On Feb. 17, 1912, a new free ward was donated to the hospital by a Pottsville woman whose name was not divulged, and on May 30, of that year Clarence Messersmith was awarded the contract for a \$34,000 addition to the hospital; the plans calling for a four story building 30 by 40 feet, and containing an operating room and children's ward. July 1, of that year, the staff of physicians was increased from three to five.

Dec. 1, 1913, Miss M. L. Robinson, of Phila., became directress of nurses and remained until 1915. On May 23, 1914, a \$50,000 endowment was left to the hospital by Miss Elizabeth Shippen, the amount from the estate having reached \$317,000 by this time.

May 10, 1914, plans was divulged for a new nurses' home to be erected on the site of the one then in use. The founding of the Pottsville Hospital Alumni and Beneficial Fund on Sept. 24, 1917, meant that any graduate nurse of the Pottsville Hospital could become a member of the state organization and join the U. S. Red Cross with all the privilege of enlisted nurses. Dr. Geo. H. Parker who was appointed Superintendent on April 1st, 1917 resigned on Feb. 21, 1918 to go to South Bethlehem. J. W. Fleet was appointed the superintendent and assumed the new duties on March 1.

In July of 1918, we find that the maternity floor had been opened at the former nurses' home and the Atkins home on Mauch Chunk St., was temporarily being used for the nurses. On Aug. 8, 1919, O. J. Aregood was given the contract to erect a Nurses' home for \$60,000 and on Dec. 30, 1919, the hospital authorities

confirmed the purchase of the old Kopitsch home, corner Mauch Chunk and Baber Sts., which was owned at that time by J. J. Kehler; of Frackville and Geo. M. Hoppes, of Pottsville, who occupied it.

Dr. Rogers Elected Superintendent

J. W. Fleet resigned as superintendent and on June 2, 1920, the Board of Managers made the decision that thereafter only a medical man would be superintendent and on July 19, 1920, Dr. J. B. Rogers was elected. Miss Ethel Speidel, of Frackville, present District nurse for the Crippled Children's Society, was night superintendent of nurses in 1920. Miss Margaret Bailey was appointed directress of nurses in 1921 and remained in that position until 1926. Miss Mary Kurchinsky who had had 11 years of service with the Ft. Springs Hospital, was appointed directress in 1927 and at this writing, remains in that position. In 1930, she received the position on the state board for the examining of registered nurses.

On June 20, 1928, the Sarah Polard Householder scholarship was established. Mrs. Householder was the wife of Dr. M. C. Householder, a member of the hospital staff and for many years was one of the most active members of the Women's Auxiliary. The scholarship offers one year of post-graduate work in various outstanding hospitals to the student who has shown exceptional nursing ability and a well grounded character.

The hospital has been maintained largely from contributions from the public, from endowment funds and from the state appropriations. During 1921, a drive for \$100,000 was conducted. July 9, 1928, a new children's ward was opened.

In February, 1929, the members of the staff made the institution the health center for the community and public clinics were started. During that year a complete reorganization took place at the hospital with Cornelius S. Loder being brought here to supervise the changes. He was made superintendent on May 13, 1929 and remained until Dec. 1st, of that year when he returned to his former duties and Major Roger A. Greene, who was then personnel director of the Penna. Department of Welfare became the superintendent.

Since 1929, the entire personnel has been reorganized, the interior of the institution has been renovated and repaired several times, and the exterior has also been painted.

Since 1929, there have been 5,000 free cases treated. At that time, there was a total of 2,452 cases for the year, private and free cases; during 1932, there was a total of 2,709. During 1929, 48 per cent. of the cases were free and now the average of free cases reaches 71 per cent. of all treated.

New modern equipment has been installed in the dietetical department, the operating room, the maternity department, laundry and wards. New X-ray and laboratory equipment has been purchased and in the operating room, a light of special design was installed through the courtesy of the medical staff during 1931.

The first floor of the maternity department has been renovated, an incubator installed and a new ventilation system introduced in the nursery with new beds and other equipment. Quiet rooms have been made into isolated units, with hot and cold water and other conveniences.

A large electric refrigerator was installed in the maternity home by the Alumnae. There has been new

laundry equipment installed and an average of 50,000 pieces is laundered monthly.

Present Personnel of Hospital

At the time of this writing, the Pottsville hospital personnel consists of: Supt. Roger A. Greene; Directress of Nurses, Mary M. Kurchinsky; Asst. Directress of Nurses, Miss Rose Cavanaugh; Instructor of Nurses, W. C. Fetzer; Operating Room Supervisor, Florence M. Poppert; Maternity Supervisor, Frances Allen; Night Superintendent, Mrs. Mary Wallace; Second Floor Supervisor, Grace Greiner; Third Floor Supervisor, Catherine R. Cuff; Anesthetist, Margaret Degutis; Dietitian, Carrie Davis; Internes, Dr. Frank S. Olmes, Dr. Florence Hess, Dr. Wm. E. Connelly, Dr. Samuel Frankel; office force, Mrs. Alma Tiley, Helen Stanton and Ruth Smith; Chief engineer, Ernest A. Leisse; Pathologist-Röntgenologist, Dr. J. Wm. Jones; Technicians, Mae Yost and Earl Gottschall; Laundry Manager, Oscar Gottschall; Seamstress, Edna Williams.

The Board of Managers consists of Henry Sheafer, President; N. S. Farquhar, Vice Pres.; Edgar Downey, Treas.; C. B. Sillyman, Secy.; M. E. Lilienthal, Wm. J. McQuail, G. T. Burd, H. I. Silliman, Rev. E. W. Weber, M. E. McMahon, Clinton W. Sheafer, A. C. Hasler, G. E. Gangloff, J. Robert Bazley, I. D. Beahm, W. S. Pugh, Hugh Dolan, Paul Sheafer, W. A. Womer and E. O. Marty.

The Women's Auxiliary has been active since its organization, performing any duties which may aid in keeping up the standards of the hospital. Years ago, an annual Hospital Day was held at Tumbling Run and also an annual supper which was first held in the Union Hall and later in the Armory.

The active staff at the hospital is composed of Dr. J. B. Rogers, Dr. M. C. Householder, Dr. Jas. B. Heller, Dr. R. F. Weaver and Dr. J. W. Clay, surgeons; Dr. J. S. Carpenter and Dr. W. R. Glenney, Medicine; Dr. R. W. Lenker, Obstetrics; Dr. P. R. Meikrantz and Dr. J. L. Flanigan, Ear, Nose and Throat; Dr. C. W. Espy, Eye; Dr. W. V. Dzurek, Neurology; Dr. E. V. Leigh, Goitre; Dr. E. V. Tolan, Pediatrics; Dr. J. Wm. Jones, Pathologist-Roentgenologist; Dr. P. C. Boord, Dr. C. V. Hogan, Dr. A. S. Ryland and Dr. C. W. Delp, Assistant surgeons.

The associate staff consists of: Drs. T. C. Fegley, W. A. Burke, R. B. Bashore, L. M. Shultz, J. J. Conway, M. O. Blechschmidt, W. A. Weaver, R. F. Prescott, R. F. Fleck, W. J. Harris, R. E. Allen, L. R. Purcell, R. R. Rarig, W. F. Darkes, D. A. Decker, H. C. Wallace, George Hohman, A. J. Klembara, C. W. Bankes, J. P. Morris, J. W. Schultze, E. F. Conlin, A. M. Miller, H. Dirschedl, J. E. Auchmuty, A. B. Fleming, J. A. Lessig, H. M. Dechert, A. E. Valibus, C. S. Burke, W. G. Bowers, F. J. Walter, D. J. Hawk, R. R. Keiser, H. K. Hobbs, I. E. Sausser, E. R. Rentschler, H. F. Hartman.

The officers are: Pres., Dr. W. V. Dzurek; Vice Pres., Dr. P. C. Boord and Secy., Dr. E. V. Tolan.

The Women's Auxiliary officers are, Mrs. Frank B. Parsons, President; Mrs. J. H. Umbenhen, Vice Pres.; Mrs. Daniel W. Kaercher, Secretary, Miss Manah D. Garretson, Treasurer.

The present members of the auxiliary are: Terms expiring in 1934, Mrs. W. L. Herndon, Mrs. Martin F. Moore, Mrs. J. H. Umbenhen, Mrs. Wm. J. Schmidt and Mrs. Samuel T. Deibert; terms expiring in 1935, Mrs. Roland Y. Luther, Mrs. Frank B. Parsons, Mrs. Arthur W. Sheafer, Miss Bertha L. Heller and Mrs. B.

Helme Stockett; in 1937, Mrs. A. L. Shay, Mrs. Wm. L. Sheafer, Mrs. Fred B. Shoener, Miss Lucy Helms; in 1936, Mrs. John A. Hilton, Mrs. Frank G. Kear, Mrs. Daniel W. Kaercher, Mrs. E. W. Weber and Miss Annie M. Pollard; in 1938, Mrs. Jas. Archbald, Mrs. Frank Carter, Miss Manah D. Garretson, Mrs. Mark Dolan and Mrs. Eugene F. Sowers.

Flower Guild Organized 1920

On Feb. 4, 1920, Mrs. W. J. Richards organized a group of girls into a Flower Circle to give flowers, jellies and other comforts to the ward patients.

At the second meeting, the name was changed to the Flower Guild of the Pottsville Hospital, and Mrs. Harold Knapp was elected president.

The Guild has also given ventilators for the windows, re-equipped the maternity nursery, given an incubator, has furnished silver for the trays, given tray covers, pillows for the nursery, linens for the cribs, chairs for the convalescents, toys and scales. For the Nurses' Home, it has given curtains, draperies, lamps, cups and saucers, candle-sticks, pictures, recovered furniture, and each year served refreshments at the reception following the graduation of the School of Nursing.

The presidents have been: Mrs. Harold Knapp, Mrs. Robert Woodbury, Miss Alice McQuail, now Mrs. E. J. Bradley; Miss Frances Little, Mrs. John Swalm, Mrs. Guy Guiterman, Mrs. Helen Kear Wilson, Mrs. Hugh Dolan, Jr., Mrs. W. L. Sheafer, Miss Mary O'Reilly, Mrs. J. J. Moore, Mrs. Albert Knight, Mrs. Wm. McQuail and Mrs. J. W. Hadesty.

The present officers are: President, Mrs. John W. Hadesty; vice-pres., Miss Elizabeth Atkins; recording secy., Mrs. W. R. Glenney; corresponding secy., Miss Isobel Hock; treas., Miss Arline Boone.

Y. M. C. A. Dedicated New Home In 1908

(From "Republican"—"Morning Paper," January 19, 1934)

"Plans are being made for the 13th annual meeting of the Pottsville Y. M. C. A. which will be held on Jan. 18th and at which time a \$4,000 note will be burned, having been paid off."—from the "Republican" of Jan. 19, 1903.

In the year 1934, the Pottsville Young Men's Christian Association is marking its 44th anniversary.

But, although the present Y. M. C. A. is only 44 years old, the movement in Pottsville started considerably more than 44 years ago for as early as 1856 there was a sentiment in favor of Y. M. C. A. work here and during that year, a branch was organized with over thirty members. The organization took place in Trinity Church on Oct. 1st, 1856 with Andrew Russel presiding as chairman of the meeting. The president was Supt. Sherman of the public schools and Rev. Wm. L. Gray, pastor of the First Methodist Church, introduced the officers for installation. But the movement did not spread rapidly and the venture met with only mediocre success.

During the winter of 1888-89, Rev. Dr. L. W. Munhall visited the Pottsville region and at the services held advocated the revival of a Y. M. C. A. in Pottsville. It was not until May 24th that definite action was taken. On that night, at a meeting in the Second Presbyterian Church, the Y. M. C. A. branch was definitely started.

Messrs. Arthur J. Pilgram and S. C. Kirk issued the first call and sent out the invitations for the first meeting. Hon. Cyrus L. Pershing presided over the meeting and Mr. Pilgram

acted as the secretary. W. A. Bowen, of Harrisburg, assistant state secretary made an address and remarks were also made by Rev. A. D. L. Oder, Judge Pershing, Rev. W. A. Leopold, Rev. E. G. Hay, Rev. A. R. Bartholomew and P. W. Sheaffer.

Out of this meeting, the present Pottsville Y. W. C. A. grew. The officers elected and the board of managers for the first year were as follows:—Pres., P. W. Sheaffer; Vice Pres., A. J. Pilgram; 2nd Vice Pres., C. Little; Secy., S. C. Kirk. and Treas., S. E. Briscoe. The board of managers were the officers and the following, Messrs O. P. Whitman, E. G. Matthews, A. W. Seltzer, W. K. Parker, J. A. Medlar, Charles Strauch, George Owens, George Snyder and B. I. Sheaffer.

The meetings were held principally on Sunday afternoons and were entirely of a religious nature. It was then realized that the class of people to whom they wished to appeal was not being reached by these services and the meetings were changed to the various churches of the town but even then the membership did not increase.

January of 1890 found the association not in a very flourishing condition and the members realized that if they wished to continue, new life would have to be instilled. The Lyceum Hall, 109 West Market St., was secured and a course of five lectures served to bring the association before the public and to increase interest in the enterprise. The money realized from the lectures enabled the Board to secure Wm. L. Anderson,

formerly of the Phila. Y. M. C. A., and general secretary of the Media Y. M. C. A. as secretary, the lecture proceeds paying three months of his salary.

In 1890 the second election was held, with the following results:—Pres., E. K. Parker; Vice-Pres., S. M. Enterline; Secy., E. G. Matthews; Treas., Prof. S. A. Thurlow. Other members of the board were, F. J. Sheaffer, W. J. Glenn, G. A. Berner, J. G. Smith, Edw. Williams, A. J. Pilgram, J. H. Super, P. A. Roth, C. Little, S. B. Briscoe and Chas. Strauch. A vacancy occurred in the presidency in a short time and Mr. Enterline was elected President and G. M. Rishel was added to the Board of Managers.

Secretary Anderson, of Phila., answered the purpose of providing reading rooms, library, gym, educational classes, concerts, plain talks, amusements and religious gatherings. Under him the association secured permanent quarters in the spring of 1891 in the old American House at the southeast corner of Centre and Union Sts., which was remodeled to provide a gymnasium and W. Ward Beam, of Phila., was elected the first physical instructor. The American House was leased from E. A. Dobbins.

About this time, death invaded the ranks of the association by removing E. P. Matthews and P. W. Sheaffer, faithful workers.

In 1891, and for a number of years thereafter, the Athletic department maintained a successful baseball club and some of their conquests on the diamond were as exciting as any lover of the game could wish for.

Charter Secured September 1891

On Sept. 14, 1891, the organization obtained a charter from the Court of Common Pleas of Schuylkill Co. and in the following month, a committee was chosen to draft a constitution and by-laws. In November of the

same year, it was decided to organize a ladies' auxiliary and this organization proved a valuable aid to the association for many years.

Mr. Beam's stay as physical instructor was short and he was succeeded by M. C. Bonsteel, who after a month's service, was followed in Nov. 1891, by A. C. Schalm who proved himself an able instructor. A fine gymnasium exhibition was given in the Academy of Music in Feb. 1892, which did much to bring the association into prominence.

In the beginning of June 1892, Mr. Schalm, after a brief illness, died. In Feb. 1892, Secy. Anderson resigned and his place was temporarily filled by H. B. Smith, a member of the association who had assisted Secy. Anderson.

During this time, Asst. State Secy. A. J. Harder kept in close touch with the situation and assisted much in the financial canvass until after a new secretary was secured.

In May 1892, the Board of Directors secured a secretary who could also look after the physical dept., P. V. B. Bowler, of Rondout, N. Y., being chosen. He took charge on July 5th, 1892.

On Aug. 1st, 1892, a committee was appointed to secure new quarters and Nov. 4, 1892, the Benj. Haywood property at No. 311 W. Market St., was purchased. The first assembly meeting in the new home was held on Dec. 4th, 1892, with an attendance of 35. The first regular meeting of the board of directors was held in the new quarters on Dec. 19th, 1892.

During the first few seasons in the new quarters, successful educational classes were conducted, especially one in mechanical drawing.

Toward the close of March 1893, the final moving took place from the old quarters in the American House to the new home on Market St., and the Sheaffer Estate also transferred the Athenaeum library to the rooms

of the Association. The formal opening of the rooms to the public occurred on Sunday, May 21st, 1893. The First and Second Presbyterian and Methodist Churches furnished three rooms in the new building at an estimated cost of \$700.

On Oct. 2, 1893, Secy. Bowler resigned and during the interval following Mr. Harder aided in overseeing the affairs.

During the week of April 13 to 15, 1893, the Dist. convention was held in Pottsville.

The committees appointed for the years 1892-1893 by S. C. Kirk the President, are interesting because of the fact that they give the names of those who were active in the work at that time. Among those on the committees were:—G. A. Berner, S. M. Enterline, G. M. Rishel, F. J. Sheafer, J. H. Super, J. W. Fleet, J. H. Fisher, W. B. Hall, S. H. Kaercher, B. J. Smith, A. J. Pilgram, John P. Ryon, Irving H. Super, S. A. Thurlow, G. A. Transue, J. H. Zimmerman, W. P. Strauch, Charles E. Alter, C. E. Downey, Thomas Foster, E. N. Hyde, J. S. Parker, Horace Smith, Norman Stockett, Wilmer Turner, Jacob W. Fox, H. O. Bechtel, Harry J. Fisher, C. W. Harper, Norman Rich, J. Geo. Seltzer, James Archbald, Harry Foster, George Sinton, John G. Smith, P. B. Fowler, Thomas Foster, J. H. Reichert, Jay G. Shumway and John W. Conrad.

H. E. Dodge came here in May of 1894 to serve temporarily as a secretary and to push the religious work and the gymnasium project with vigor. He remained until August and was succeeded by Frank Earl. The religious work made a remarkable growth during the following season and much progress was also made along physical lines, the gymnasium now having been built. Mr. Earl resigned in Jan. 1896 and the Board again secured H. E. Dodge who served until February of 1898.

The work of paying off the debt was pushed vigorously and on Jan. 28th, 1903, at the 13th annual meeting of the board, Prof. S. A. Thurlow presided at the burning of a \$4,000 note, which had been paid off. This left a mortgage of \$7,000 on the building.

During the fall of 1904, bowling became a popular sport and bowling alleys were installed in the headquarters, Secy. G. L. Goodwin, who had a very successful stay here, resigned on July 17, 1907 and on Oct. 2nd, of that year Rev. E. H. Romig became the temporary secretary, remaining until July 7, 1909, when he left to take a charge in Phila.

Plans Laid For New Building

There was such an increase in interest and membership that larger quarters were justified, so the building occupied by the Pottsville Gas Co., at the corner of Second and West Market St., was purchased and also the Methodist Church building on N. Second St., and plans were prepared for a new building. The cornerstone of the new Y. M. C. A. was laid on Nov. 10, 1907. A program was held in the Academy of Music with Congressman G. D. McCreary, Representative of the Sixth Penna. Congressional District and a native of Schuylkill County as the principal speaker. After the program in the Academy, those present went to the building site where the cornerstone was laid. W. A. Cather presented Arthur W. Sheafer with a silver trowel on behalf of the Ladies Auxiliary for the actual ceremony of laying the stone.

The Board of Managers at that time was composed of: A. W. Sheafer, pres.; G. R. Moll, recording secy.; Jas. Archbald, Jr., treas; W. L. Marquardt, W. A. Cather, L. T. Medlar, Dr. P. K. Filbert, Van Dusen Rickert, Dr. C. D. Miller, U. H. Nuss, G. A. Berner, S. B. Edwards, E. H. Ward and Chas. E. Skeen.

The Board of Trustees was composed of Dr. P. K. Filbert, S. M. Enterline, John Zimmerman, A. J. Pilgram, Jas. Archbald, Jr. The Executive Committee was composed of: E. H. Romig, Gen. Secy., and John F. Murray, Physical Director.

The new building was formally dedicated a year later on Nov. 7, 1908. Included in the building were 36 dormitories.

On July 30, 1909, Benj. M. Lewis, of New York, was elected secretary and the interest in the Association was very keen. There were glee clubs and social affairs and lecture courses in addition to the general program of classes and work in the association. On Oct. 31, 1910, a special department took up the work of teaching English to foreign miners.

At the 21st annual meeting on Jan. 24th, 1911, Secy. Lewis reported that there was a paid up membership of 332 over 18 years of age; 168 boys between the ages of 15 and 18, and 112 boys, between the ages of 9 and 15, making a total of 512 members. Treas. Archbald reported that the expenses for the year had been \$10,856.14 and that over \$3,000 was still needed to fill out the budget.

The Women's Auxiliary at this time was taking an active part in the work of the organization and the officers of the Auxiliary consisted of Mrs. Louise Carter, Pres.; Miss Emily Matten, Vice Pres.; Mrs. A. L. Gillars, Treas.

At the annual meeting of Feb. 3, 1915, there was a total membership of 600. At this time, W. P. Smith, the Boys' Secretary was ill and Harvey L. Reno was appointed to take his place. The membership passed the 700 mark in 1917 and on Aug. 13th, of that year D. Mason Long, of Danville, Va., was chosen to succeed J. W. Pryce, who was then the Boys' Secretary.

But the World War times were here and the Y. M. C. A. was not found wanting. On Nov. 25, 1917, the county Y. M. C. A. War Fund went over the top and exceeded the quota of \$50,000 by \$10,481.

Prof. Murray, the Physical Director, who was a native of Ontario, Canada, was made a citizen of the U. S. at a special session of Naturalization Court and on June 10, 1918 entered the army field service of the Y. M. C. A. At the annual banquet of the organization on Jan. 28th, 1919, the report showed that 135 members of the Y. M. C. A. had been in some kind of war service either at home or abroad. Three of that number were killed in action and one died in camp.

When there was a shortage of workers at the Y. M. C. A. during the war, Henry M. Wonders and Robert Warmkessel substituted for the regular workers. On Feb. 14, 1919, G. Raymond Derby was engaged as Boys' Secretary and took up his duties on March 1st.

After the end of the war, the Y. M. C. A. installed a demobilization secretary, T. Stewart Blair, of Harrisburg, who was secured by the State Bureau of Service of the National War Work Council for this purpose.

Mr. Lewis having resigned, Norman B. Angell, of Baltimore, Md., was elected as the new secretary on Sept. 19, 1919 and on April 14, 1920, Conrad S. Bock, of Wilmington, Del., was appointed in charge of the Boys' work.

Swimming Pool Added in 1920

During the year 1920, the work of remodeling and improving the shower bath rooms and the swimming pool was taken up. Sept. 15, of that year found the work entirely finished by Contractor Clarence Messersmith and George Streigel had the honor of being the first man to take a swim in the new pool.

At the annual meeting on Jan. 22nd, 1921, the report showed that during the year the receipts had been \$30,806.91 and the expenditures, \$30,687.10, leaving a balance in the treasury of \$185.93.

Feb. 9, 1921, the Board of Directors decided to accept the offer of an Americanization Secretary to work among the foreign born in Pottsville. The County War Work Council volunteered to pay six months expenses if the Y. M. C. A. would pay the other six months. In September, Dr. J. M. Lloyd was chosen as the Americanization Secretary.

At several times during the history of the organization, the question of a lunchroom at which the dormitory residents could get their meals, had been discussed and on June 15th, 1921, the contract was given for the installation of a cafeteria which was to be ready for occupancy by Oct. 1st. On Sept. 23, 1921, Miss Margaret MacFarlane, of Sioux City, Iowa, was chosen as the director of the cafeteria. The cafeteria proved to be such a success and there was such a demand for this service that on Oct. 13, 1921, the House Committee with Wm. F. Weber, chairman, decided to change the policy and have it opened to the public instead of serving the Y. M. C. A. men only. During the month of November, 1921, 991 meals were served the first week; 1249 the second, and 1373 the third. Because of the increased demand, it was necessary to enlarge the building.

For several years before this time, the boys had been enjoying their summer camp at Rausch's Creek and plans were started to enlarge the camping site and have it more thoroughly equipped.

The Y. M. C. A. also conducted public playgrounds during the summer and continue to do so at the present

time, although the play grounds have now decreased in number.

Secretary Angell remained here until Oct. 1, 1923, and H. W. Ewig, the secretary at this writing, was appointed and assumed his new duties on Nov. 1st.

Under Secretary Ewig's regime, the Association had a period of remarkable progress until its progress was checked by the industrial depression. There were so many demands upon the purses of those who ordinarily contributed to the organization that it has been found difficult to meet the expenses but the institution had weathered the storm successfully and it is hoped that the year of 1934 may be better than 1933. Mr. Ewig still has as his assistants, J. F. Murray, physical director and A. J. Zimmerman, secretary in charge of Boys' Work. Mr. Zimmerman succeeded Mr. Bock, coming here on Jan. 21, 1924.

For three years, night schools have been conducted in salesmanship, public speaking, show card writing, mechanical drawing and mathematics. For a period of five years, the Phalanx Club of 30 members, whose ages range from 21 to 28 years, have been wielding a splendid influence.

The cafeteria was forced to close down during the latter part of 1933 because of no longer being operated at a profit. At the height of the success of the cafeteria a total of 98,000 persons was served in a single year.

Boys' Work Progresses

The progress made in the Boys' Work Department, under Secy. Zimmerman's regime, compares favorably with the work being done by the leaders of the state.

This department became active in 1923 and since that time, a fine camp has been developed from an initial prospect of a group of 30 boys and a half dozen worn-out tents. The movement has grown to an attendance of

205 boys in 1933. There is associated with it a property valuation of \$20,000.

The Camp now comprises 23 acres in the beautiful valley near New Ringgold. It boasts a dining hall which can accommodate 170 persons, and a modern recreation hall. There are eleven tent houses, which provide sleeping quarters for the campers, also an administration building and a dispensary.

For swimming, there is a large natural dam which provides excellent swimming facilities. One of the outstanding features of the camp is a two-story farm house which is more than 100 years old. It is useful and completes almost adequate permanent equipment. It is interesting to state 1,321 different boys have enjoyed one or more weeks at the camp to date. A total of 3,302 boy-weeks comprises the attendance. The boys themselves have planted 15,000 trees on the camp site.

An aid to the work of the Boys' department is a Mothers' Service Club, which has done much towards the equipping of the camp. Since its organization, it has contributed about \$2,000 toward the boys' general comfort and development.

In addition to developments, here, at home, the Boys' Department, during the past decade has contributed more than \$2,000 toward the Y. M. C. A. World Brotherhood Fund. The "C", in the name, has been kept well in the foreground with 3,750 Bible Club meetings attended by 36,818 boys. There were 40 religious meetings, for boys, conducted by boys, with an aggregate attendance of about 4,500.

During the last few years, the creative instinct of the boy has been developed through handicraft and interest clubs. Some of the activities include soap sculpture, stamp collecting, "first aid", artstone, model airplane construction, brass tapping,

wood carving, toy making, farm work, silhouette making, microscopic work, brush making, reed weaving, placque painting, rubber sponge construction, leather work, plaster casts, tile work, chess clubs, scrap book making and many others.

Another feature of the Boys' Work Department is a Scout Troop which has been in continuous existence throughout this period.

Last year marked the closing of the tenth annual community preaching services, which, under the direction of the Y. M. C. A. had their inception in 1924. These are made possible through the cooperation of the Pottsville Ministerial Association and the general support of the various religious denominations as well as the community in general. This has been promoted by a religious committee comprising:—A. L. Rich, G. T. Burd, the Rev. Emil W. Weber and L. K. Stoner with W. Guy Payne as chairman.

The series of meetings have been conducted in the Methodist Church, with Secretary Ewig having the support of the Y. M. C. A. Board to such an extent that the budget for religious purposes was raised from \$25 to \$600 per year and this amount has since been increased to \$1,200. Outstanding figures in the religious world have been brought here to speak at these services and during the past decade, close to four score community services have been conducted with an attendance of more than 90,000. The public has appreciated the committee's efforts to such an extent that more than \$10,000 has been received in free will offerings in order that the expenses may be met.

Physical Department Shows Increase

The Physical Department has shown continued increase in numbers since the beginning of the organization. Six classes are included in the roster under the guidance of Prof. Murray, taking care of the athletic

interest of several hundred boys and young men of Pottsville.

The Elementary Junior and Junior classes, of boys under high school age, are among the largest. Their activities comprise routine drills with wands while athletic games and special work on the apparatus tend to vary their routine. Indoor baseball leagues and basketball circuits in their respective classes teach them to perform in competitive sports.

The High School and Employed Classes, of boys up to 18 years of age, were once the most popular classes in the department but with the outside interest in school and elsewhere, have dropped below their former marks. However, interest still centers in these groups. The high school class specializes in Indian clubs for their drills, with advanced work on the apparatus. The employed boys use the dumbbells and wands for their exercises, while both classes engage in basketball and indoor baseball according to the season.

The two larger classes, the Seniors and Business Men, having three sessions nightly each week, are becoming the largest groups of the department. Both classes make use of the

various pieces of apparatus. Basketball and indoor baseball are seasonal sports for the Seniors, while service ball is played once each week. The Business Men find volley ball more to their liking with many warm contests being played over the supper hour.

The important feature of the Physical Department is the annual exhibition in spring. The Senior All Around, the Senior basketball league and the Senior indoor baseball league, are other important features.

The officers and directing board of the Association follow:—A. W. Sheaffer, honorary pres.; Theo. R. Daddow, pres.; Geo. H. Kaercher, vice pres.; O. L. Underwood, recording secy., and Colonel Jas. Archbald, treas.

Board of Managers or Directors, G. T. Burd, B. Helme Stockett, Albert Maberry, Wm. F. Weber, W. Guy Payne, Colonel Jas. Archbald, Van Dusen Rickert, Geo. H. Kaercher, Theo. R. Daddow, Robt. G. Haertter, Chas. E. Skeen, O. L. Underwood, Edw. S. Fernsler, Harry C. Miller and L. K. Stoner.

Trustees, Colonel Archbald, Conrad K. Hock, Theo. R. Daddow, E. C. Luther, R. H. Koch and Louis F. Ulmer.



County Farm Bureau Dates Back to 1916

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* January 22-24, 1934)

"A meeting for the purpose of organizing a Farm Bureau for Schuylkill County will be held Saturday, Jan. 26th, at the Court House, Pottsville. This meeting should be of vital interest to every farmer in the county."—From the "Republican" of Jan. 22, 1918.

The Schuylkill County Farm Bureau, now known as the Schuylkill County Agricultural Extension Association, was the direct result of the "Republican" Farm Show which was held in the Armory on Nov. 17, 1915.

The "Republican" at that time proved by the wonderful showing made by the farmers with their products that there was a great field for agricultural development in the county.

It was difficult to convince the farmers who had been conducting their farms at the same location for many years that they ought to have some trained advice in order to bring out the best that was in their land. There was a decided reluctance to listen to any young college graduate tell them how their business should be conducted. It took some time to overcome this prejudice but finally, on Feb. 19th, 1916, a meeting was held at Pottsville and attended by about 150 persons at which the Schuylkill County Farm Bureau was organized. Dr. M. S. McDowell, Secretary of the Agricultural Extension department of State College, was present and told of the procedure to go through in order to secure a farm agent and also of the operation of the Farm Bureau.

The following officers were nominated:—Pres., W. H. Stoudt; First Vice Pres., J. H. Zerbey, Editor of

the "Republican"; Second Vice Pres., J. M. Schroepe; Secy., Paul Houck. and Treas., H. W. Weldy.

The executive committee consisted of Livingstone Seltzer, N. E. Hepler, P. H. Updegrave, A. A. Schwalm, A. Fidler, John Shoener, C. H. Weldy, H. P. Bressler, Geo. Boyer, H. S. Albright and J. H. Dunkleberger.

It was decided to secure a farm agent for the coming summer and A. L. Hacker, a graduate of State College, was sent to Pottsville to act as the agent. He arrived in Pottsville on July 7th, 1916, but on July 22nd, was recalled by the State College authorities and sent to Lehigh County, leaving Schuylkill County without any agent, after having had one but a few days.

The chief reason for Hacker's recall was the opposition of a number of the farmers to the Farm Bureau and the failure of the county to appropriate the necessary money to maintain the Bureau, part of the expense of which was to be paid by the state and part by the county.

Nothing was done that summer and the matter was at a standstill until a meeting of the farmers was called for Orwigsburg on March 10, 1917 at which time John Shoener, of McKeansburg again spoke in favor of the plan and the decision was made to see what progress could be made to have the county appropriate its share.

With the outbreak of the war with Germany, there was an increased interest in gardening and farming and on May 7th, 1917, the County Commissioners announced that they would appropriate \$1,500 a year to

pay for a farm agent to do agricultural extension work in the county.

May 16, 1916, word was received from State College that O. D. Henry had been appointed the Schuylkill County farm agent and that he would arrive to take up his new duties on June 1st. However, instead of Mr. Henry, W. L. Bollinger, the present farm agent, was sent, arriving on June 14, 1917, one day after graduating from State College.

He at once started to work among the farmers, tactfully overcoming their objections to taking directions from a young man, and after a successful season of work, the formal organization of the Farm Bureau took place in Court Room No. 1 on Jan. 26, 1918 under the direction of Mr. Bollinger. There were 200 farmers present.

Bureau Officers Elected

The following officers were elected: President, I. A. Seltzer, Ringtown; Vice Pres., J. W. Kunkel, Lakeside; Secy., A. H. A. Yost, Sch. Haven; Treas., A. W. Berkheiser, Auburn.

Executive Committeemen: I. A. Seltzer, Ringtown; J. W. Kunkel, Lakeside; A. H. A. Yost, Sch. Haven; A. W. Berkheiser, Auburn; J. H. Schroepe, Hegins; Monroe Hepler, Pitman; Walter Bensinger, Lewistown; Richard Coons, Tamaqua, R. D.; Geo. Schwalm, Muir. Ex-officio members. E. C. Brobst, County Commissioner; Livingstone Seltzer, Co. Supt. of Schools; Jos. Bichler, Pres. Schuylkill County Agricultural Society; Benj. Kunkel, Master of Pomona Grange, and John Shoener, Chairman of the County Institute.

The funds appropriated by the State and Federal government did not provide for the operating expenses of the local Farm Bureau such as providing the office and the traveling expenses of the agent. The money for these had to be furnished by the county through application made to the County Commissioners.

The aim of the Farm Bureau was to bring facts from the agricultural experiment stations to the county and there determine by field demonstrations, whether or not they would apply under the county soil and climatic conditions.

One of the first projects to be taken up was the formation of a Potato Club to demonstrate what variety of potatoes could be grown to best advantage in the county. An active campaign was also launched in hog production and as a result of the work, on Dec. 1, 1918, the quota for the county showed 1,000 hogs of an increase over the number kept in March 1918. A Boys' and Girls' Pig Club was formed to instruct the boys and girls in the feeding and managing of the pigs. This club, which was started on June 3rd and closed in October, had the following members: Fred, Paul and Harvey. Ethel, Grace and Johnathan Herring Heber and Walter Brown, of Pinegrove; Howard Sheaffer, Joseph, Ruth and Lizzie Manbeck, Summit Station.

The report at the end of the first year in December 1918, was very interesting for it shows that the farm agent had made 601 farm visits; had had 325 office calls; 26 Home Economics meetings were held with an attendance of 2,061; 60 farm demonstrations were visited; 9,703 miles had been traveled, and the total expenses of the year amounted to \$1,243.32.

Several excursions had been held during that first year to take the farmers interested to farms where practical results could be seen. There was an excursion to the Adams Co. Farm belt, which was attended by 29 persons; an excursion from the Hegins Valley to Lehigh County Potato district and a wheat variety demonstration had been given in Union Twp.

The object to the Farm Bureau in taking these excursions was to help

the farmers to increase production but to do this by teaching more economical production. By assisting the farmer in his organization the whole order of country life would thus be benefited.

During the same year, 1918, another organization was formed in conjunction with the Farm Bureau. This was the Potato Growers' Association which was organized in April. The association made possible the buying of fertilizer, seed and spray materials in large amounts and in that way sell them to the farmers for a much lower price than the farmers would pay ordinarily. The county was divided into nine districts, with each district represented by a director. It was not until Feb. 26, 1920, however, that the association was formally chartered. The object of the organization was to improve the methods of potato growing, to improve the quality of the potatoes grown and to improve market facilities for the growers. The first officers were: Pres., W. H. Maurer, Hegins; Vice Pres., Geo. Schwalm; Secy., John Shoener, Orwigsburg, and Treas., W. H. Bensinger.

The directors were: Geo. M. Schwalm, Porter; W. E. Knorr, Mahantongo; Elmer Dennison, Ringtown; Walter Bensinger, Lewistown; Francis Delaney, Lakeside; Leroy Zehner, West Penn; John Shoener, McKeansburg, and Paul H. Lengel, Pinegrove.

In order to improve the county herds, a campaign was put on in 1919 to introduce pure-bred sires and the farmers who first purchased them were: Thos. Green, Barry Twp.; Jos. White, Butler Twp., and A. C. Ressler, Hegins.

During this year, two excursions were run, one to Ringtown in cooperation with the Potato Growers' Association and the other to State College, with 48 participating in the latter.

Farm Loan Association Formed

It was necessary that a local Farm Loan Association be formed before money could be borrowed from the Federal funds and the Farm Bureau helped the men interested to get together for proper organization. The officers of the Loan Association were as follows: Wm. Hunsberger, N. Union Twp., Pres.; A. H. A. Yost, Orwigsburg, Vice Pres.; G. M. Paxson, Sch. Haven, Secy.-Treas.

The first pure-bred heifer club was organized by county boys and girls in October, 1919. The notes of the boys and girls were taken by the bank in payment for the heifers, the notes being met after the heifers had earned the money through offspring and milk production. The members of the first Boys' and Girls' Heifer Club included, Homer C. Boyer, Floyd W. Boyer, Dorothy Merkle, Miriam Bensinger, Eliz. Boyer, Wilbur Boyer, Paul K. Koch, Laura Bensinger, Daniel F. Leiby and Paul Bensinger.

During 1919, the biggest project of the year was potato spraying experiments. The farmers on whose farm the experiments were first conducted were: I. A. Seltzer, Ringtown; W. E. Brown, Muir; John Schrope, Hegins; Jos. Fisher, Orwigsburg, R. D.; Earl Mengle, Orwigsburg, R. D.; Roy Zehner, Tamaqua, R. D., and Morris Moyer, Sch. Haven, R. D.

During the first few years, emphasis continued to be placed on the potato crops and the results of spraying were soon shown in the crops. Demonstrations were held in many parts of the county and excursions were made to State College and to the farms in the county where the results of spraying were evident. The National Dairy Show was also visited and the farmers secured valuable information on dairy projects.

In Dec., 1922, a show of county farm products was held in Pottsville at which there were 100 exhibits of

apples of different varieties, 30 of potatoes and 11 of corn. During this year, Mr. Bollinger was made general chairman of the Agricultural Dept. of the County Fair and interest in exhibits for this was keen. A campaign for more sanitary milk was pushed with vigor during this year and the Home Economics work was introduced.

Strawberry Clubs A New Project

In the spring of 1923, a new project was started—that of organizing Strawberry Clubs. Two clubs were formed in the Sch. Haven-Pinegrove District. The winners were Jos. J. Lutz, Paul A. Kellar, Margaret Nagle, Marion and Wayne Reed. There was also a Valley View Club, in which the winners for the season were Elsie Artz, Maude and Daniel Blyler. Twila Artz and Vesta Harner. The humble beginning bore remarkable results and a few years later, the districts in which these clubs were formed became some of the chief strawberry producers in the county.

In 1924, interest was aroused in capon clubs in which the young farmers were given instructions by Mr. Bollinger. The winners in the first club which was organized were as follows: Marion Ludwig, Hegins, R. D.; Allen Klinger, Ashland, R. D.; John Ebert, Jr., John Strausser and Jas. Ludwig, Hegins, R. D. The remaining members who were enrolled were Geo. Ebert, Monroe Klinger, Merlin Harner, and Lawrence Shuey, Hegins, R. D., and Emma Kessler, Ashland, R. D.

During this year, forestry planting was introduced and a number of reforestation demonstrations were held, resulting in 49 farmers signing up to plant trees in the spring, a total of 60,000 trees.

At the annual meeting of the Farm Bureau on March 3, 1925, the name

was changed to the Agricultural Extension Association of Schuylkill County. The county farmers took a longer trip than their previous ones this year, when 41 took a dairy tour to Maryland and other counties along the route there to see the most up-to-date dairy methods in use.

Interest was also growing in poultry raising and on Nov. 10, 1925, 101 county farmers went to Berks, Bucks and Montgomery counties to get information on poultry raising. Landscape gardening was also introduced during this year and resulted in many of the farms being beautifully landscaped.

During 1924 the first Raspberry Club was formed with the results being known in 1925. The members of this first club included Irene C. Reed, Elda P. Wolfgang, Myrtle A. Minnick, Rough and Ready; Helen A. Rothermel, Marlin J. Maurer, Paul Mattern and Harry Dietrich, of Klingerstown, R. D. 1; Pauline Herb, Stewart Knerr and Stanford Herb, of Pitman.

In June of 1925, the first Farmers' Field Day was introduced and was such a success that the custom has been continued ever since. On this first occasion, State Master John A. McSparran was the speaker and over 3,000 persons attended.

Community farm products shows were held at Valley View and Pitman during 1925, being sponsored by the Valley View Bank.

One of the outstanding events of 1926 was the organization of a Celery Club. Up until this time, very little celery was grown in the county and Mr. Bollinger introduced the idea, particularly arousing the interest of the boys and girls. The members of this first club were as follows: Elsie Artz, Robert Ebert, Alva Shuey, Twila Artz, Mary Kauffman, Mark Kessler, Chester Dietrich, Daniel

Blyler and Herman Klouser, of Hegins, R. D.; Mildred Herb, Vesta Harner, Leonard Schroepe, Ervin Troutman, C. Ernest Herb of Valley View; Talbert Klinger, Pearl Klinger and Walter Shuey of Ashland, R. D.

On April 1st, 1926, the Schuylkill County Cow Testing Association was organized with 27 members. On June 12, 1926, the second Farmers' Day was held with over 4000 attending.

Aug. 24th to 31st, 88 county farmers enjoyed an auto trip to New York and Canada, seeing the methods used and the results obtained on the farms at which they stopped.

1927 saw more progress being made in celery growing, and a large club was formed in Ringtown, the first of that section. The members of the club included Hannah Lindner, Daisy Lindner, Allan W. Deebe, Eugene Zimmerman, Emma Dennis, Henry E. Deebe, Franklin Hart, Eugene Stauffer, Grace Houser, Gerald Laudig, Ralph Warner, Blanche and Robert Gearhart, Reginald Houser, Rebecca Breisch, Allen Beaver, Thos. Davis, Hazel Hetherington, Henry Horn, Wm. Lindemuth, Reber and Davis Horn.

At the Fair grounds during the Fair in September, a Boys' and Girls' Calf Club was organized.

Pageant of Agriculture at Field Day

A new departure was tried for the Farmers' Field Day on June 18, 1927 at the Fair Grounds when a Pageant of Agriculture was produced as a part of the program. Miss Laura Reynolds, the Home Economics representative, directed the pageant and it proved to be educational as well as entertaining. The General Committee was composed of the following: Hegins, Miss Mae Mauer, Guy Artz, J. M. Schroepe; Valley View, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Snyder and Ray Troutman; Pinegrove, Mrs. Cecelia Stauffer; Porter Twp., Elroy Baker; Weis-

hample, Rev. Miller, Miss Anna Eberts and Elias Kessler; Lakeside, Genevieve Gastager, John Kunkle, Chas. Ellis and John Konsavage; Friedensburg, Grover Reber, Mrs. Earl Staller, A. T. Reigel, Vilas Staller and A. J. Fidler; Lewistown, Earl Boyer, John Zimmerman and Mrs. Earl Rouch.

The pageant opened with the arrival of Queen Agriculture (Marion Reed) and her attendants. The Reader was A. J. Fidler. Episode 1, the Ancient Religion of Agriculture, was given by the Hegins Community; Interlude, Indian Corn Dance by Valley View community; Episode 2, Early Agriculture by Friedensburg community showing the farm implements made entirely of wood; Interlude, Corn Husking Bee, Pinegrove community; Episode 3, Labor Saving in agriculture machinery, the Spirit of Invention; Interlude, old fashioned Singing School by the Lewistown community; Episode 4, Spirit of Organization by Lakeside Community, showing the formation of the Grange and the spirit of Education, by Porter Twp. showing the problems of education and the experimental stations; Interlude, Farm Women by the Ringtown community; Episode 5, The Future of Agriculture by the Weis-hample community. This showed how health, education, religion, recreation, the farm bus, the farm home and the community life were all needed to make possible permanent prosperity for the rural community.

The area plan of tuberculin testing of cattle was introduced in 1927. The plan had previously been carried on by some individuals in the county, but the entire township was now asked to sign up, Porter and Washington Twps. being the first to sign.

The Cow Testing Association was reorganized on April 1, 1928, when J. Clair Hindman, the first cow tester

resigned, and Wm. Dietrich was employed.

Among the tours taken in this year was one to Delaware and the eastern shore of Maryland, in which 229 persons participated and a trip to Florida, with 53 in the party.

During the year 1928, on Nov. 19, the first county-wide poultry meeting was held at Orwigsburg with 103 men in attendance.

Tuberculin Testing Proves Popular

By 1929 the tuberculin testing of cattle had gained in popularity and six townships had tuberculosis eradication tests, including Hegins, Mahantongo, Porter, Wayne, and Washington, with Hubley also signed up but not yet tested. During this year the farmers took one of the longest trips. Although it was not really a project of the Extension Association, those who went on the trip were largely farmers who were interested in the dry farming and irrigation methods of the far west and northwest. The trip took in California and Northwestern states.

The drought year, 1930, found Schuylkill County escaping without being affected nearly so severely as many of the other counties of the state. Particular attention had been paid to the apple and peach orchards for several years and there were now twelve demonstration orchards, where growers used the state spray service, and fertilized and pruned according to the best information available. These demonstration orchards were owned by Paul Lengel, Pinegrove; A. F. Kimmel, Geo. Kunkel, Orwigsburg; Wm. Gombert, Andreas; J. W. Kraus, Barnesville; Clarence Bensinger, Tamaqua, No. 1; Breisch Bros., Ringtown; F. O. Schadel, Klingers-town; John Schroepe, Hegins; P. H. Updegrave, Hegins; Warren Miller,

Tamaqua, No. 3, and Milton Roehrer, Drehersville.

In 1930, the first Boys' and Girls' Sweet Corn Club was formed by the Weishample Grange. The members of the club were Chester Dietrich, Lawrence Shuey, Robert Ebert, Lewis Ebert, Johnathan Hornberger, Warren Klinger, Esther Hubler, Lewis Karvoski, Walter Shuey, Vernon and Gurney Klinger, Beatrice Shuey, Pearl Moser and Thos. Maurer.

The Cow Testing Association and the farmers had an excursion to Cumberland County, Pa., and to Frederick County, Md., and 86 farmers enjoyed a trip to New England and Canada from Aug. 11th to 22nd, 1930.

The first Bee Club in the county was organized on April 1st, 1930, and although it was not entirely successful because of inexperience, it was a gratifying beginning. The members of it included, Harold Shoener, Orwigsburg; Robert Maurer, Wilson Kramer and Winfield Gilham, Sch. Haven; Oscar Nagle, Glenn Ryland and Norman Heffner, Pinegrove R. D.; Henry Reed, Summit Station, and Francis Luckenbill, Friedensburg.

1930 was also the first year in which a camp for farm boys was conducted under the auspices of the Club Dept. of State College. The camp was held at the Y. M. C. A. Camp at New Ringgold, with 66 boys attending, 14 being from Schuylkill County. The county boys were: Arthur B. Hetherington, David J. Horne, Gerald Laudig, of Ringtown; Howard Mengel and Franklin Diehl, of Klingerstown; Kenneth Hoffman, Spring Glen; Walter Shuey, Gurney Klinger. Vernon R. Klinger, of Ashland, R. D.; Daniel Bensinger, Marlin and Curtis Heisler, and Ellsworth Merkel, of Lewistown.

In addition to the orchards under supervision by 1931 there were also two demonstration vineyards belonging to P. H. Updegrave, Valley View and Frank Hepler, of Pitman.

Not many canteloupes had been grown in the county, but in 1932 this product became more popular and in May, a Canteloupe Growing Club was formed. In September, a show was held at Reynolds, in which the following placed, Cladus Eberts, Gertrude Nothstein, Edna Bredbenner, Beatrice and Leon Miller.

Another industry which was growing up in the community near Sacramento was the turkey industry, Allison Harner had become quite successful as a turkey grower and had taught his ideas to a number of growers until in 1932 we find that 10,000 turkeys were grown by 24 growers within a five mile radius of Sacramento.

After the farmers had learned how to raise better and larger crops, the next proposition was to find markets for the products. During 1933, the efforts of Farm Agent Bollinger were occupied to a great extent with the problem of marketing the strawberries, turkeys, and apples that were raised in abundance in the county.

In addition during 1933 the study of lime and fertilizers, along with legumes were stressed in soil building. There were special orchard work done, nine Agricultural townships were given the tuberculin test. Seed potatoes, new vegetables and field seeds were introduced. 4-H clubs were formed, dairy and poultry improvement work was taken up.

Relief Gardens Prominent in 1933

Another big feature of 1933 was the work with the Relief Gardens, and the cooperation which was given to Relief Garden leaders. There were 7,968 relief gardens in the county. The Schuylkill County farmers also cooperated with the government in the wheat control plan. In Schuylkill County, 87 farmers, representing 35,000 bushels of wheat, signed up for the wheat control program.

Many winter meetings were held during 1933, with field and orchard demonstrations supplementing the indoor meetings. There were 300 acres in the county devoted to the growing of strawberries during 1933, and the growers formed a temporary organization to market their berries through an auction at the Fair Ground on June 12. The county apples were sent to New York markets instead of local markets where there was already a surplus.

The Cow Testing Association marked its seventh year on April 1, 1933, with 17 whole year members, one part member and a total of 391 cows thoroughly tested. In 1933 21 agricultural townships were completely tested for tuberculosis and there were 846 herd owners.

Some progress was also made in ornamental horticulture with experiments being tried on the farms of John Mimm, McKeansburg; John Schrope, Hegins and Clayton Herb, Valley View, in 1933.

An interesting comparison can be drawn from the first report of Farm Agent Bollinger in 1918 and the last annual report in Dec. 1933. During this first year, he traveled 9,703 miles, largely by rail; in 1933, he had no rail travel but covered 15,130 miles by auto; the expenses of the first year totalled \$1,243.32 and of the year 1933, \$2,456.43. 601 farm visits were made the first year and in 1933, over 1200 visits.

The Home Economics work in connection with the agricultural extension work has been growing rapidly since it was started in 1922. At that time, it was in charge of a Home Economics Extension representative who had charge of three counties and worked one-third of the time in Schuylkill. Miss Evelyn Wilson, the first representative, remained until 1925, having charge of Columbia, Northumberland and Schuylkill Counties. She was succeeded by Miss

Laura Reynolds, who had charge of Columbia and Schuylkill counties and remained until 1927, leaving then to take a year of graduate study. In 1928, Miss Emma Maxwell substituted in the place of Miss Reynolds who returned here to take charge of the work, then having Berks and Schuylkill Counties until Oct. 1930 when Miss L. Isabel Myers, the present representative came here, having Schuylkill County alone as her territory.

4-H Clubs Gain in County

During the year 1933, the work reached its peak in the county because of the fact that there was a full time representative to carry out the program. In 1926, the first 4-H clubs were formed among the farm girls. The 4-H stands for head, heart, hand and health. The work is conducted throughout the county with these main divisions of service:—Foods, Nutrition, Clothing and Home Management. Three women were elected in 1929 to the county committee in order to help to plan the county program and further the work of Home Economics. The women are attacking rural, social and community problems and are becoming important factors in the agricultural project, working with the farmers with the same objective in view.

There were over 140 girls enrolled in 4-H club in 1933, in Clothing, Nutrition and Health and Canning Clubs. The girls in Clothing Work made 266 garments and the Friedensburg Canning Club canned 180 cans of vegetables and fruits. A Club Round-up was held at the Fair Grounds in September of 1933, and the garments and canned goods were judged, with the prize winning ones being entered in the State Farm Show.

At this writing, the Executive Committee members for Home Economics work are as follows:—Mrs. Mary Staller, Friedensburg, 4-H Canning

Club; Mrs. Maude Richards, Pottsville, Adult Food Preservation; Miss Pearl Miller, Tamaqua, Adult Clothing and Home Management; Mrs. C. M. Ludwig, Hegins, 4-H Club Nutrition and Home Management; Mrs. Geo. C. Deibert, Landingville, Adult Nutrition and Health and 4-H Clothing.

The officers of the Agricultural Extension Association are as follows:—Pres., Guy S. Reed, Summit Station; Vice Pres., U. E. Rhine, Pinegrove R. D., and Secy., H. D. Hartman, New Ringgold. In addition to those already mentioned on the Executive Committee, representing Home Economics, are the following: Frank Gerbert, New Ringgold; F. O. Schadel, Klingerstown; John Kunkel, Barnesville; Clarence Bensinger, Tamaqua R. D.; Paul Lengel, Pinegrove R. D.; C. H. Koch, McKeansburg; Frank Linder, Ringtown; Wayne Heberling, Tower City; Lloyd Snyder, Valley View.

The Potato Growers Association held its annual meeting in Pottsville on Dec. 16th, 1933. At this time, reports showed that the county was eighth in the list of the counties of the state that grow potatoes. In 1923 the county placed second.

As is the usual custom, a banquet was held after the business meeting. The financial report showed that the reserve balance of the Association is \$3,312.88.

John Schrope was reelected president; George Schwalm, Muir, vice-president, and H. D. Hartman, secretary and treasurer.

The directors at present writing are:—Geo. Schwalm, Porter Twp.; John Schrope, Hegins; Francis Shadel, Mahantongo Twp.; Gomer Horn, Ringtown; John Kunkle, Lakeside; Paul Lengle, Pinegrove; C. H. Koch, McKeansburg; Johnathan Zehner, West Penn, and Clarence Bensinger, Lewistown.

Pottsville P. O. Moved Many Times

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* January 25-27, 1934)

"Congressman Brumm is sending out telegrams from Washington announcing the completion of plans for the new public building for Pottsville . . ." from the "Republican" of Jan. 25, 1898.

This paragraph referred to the new Post Office building, at 2nd and W. Norwegian Sts., the appropriation for which had been secured several years before this time, by Congressman Jas. B. Reilly.

A primitive style of postoffice was in existence in Pottsville from the time that a considerable number of building plots had been sold and homes built thereon. Prior to Pottsville becoming a borough in 1828, there was a postoffice here. Thos. Sillyman was the first Postmaster. He did not discharge the duties for any considerable length of time for the reason that handling the postoffice added labors beyond those required by the private business which he carried on. The postoffice was conducted in his store room.

From the day of Postmaster Sillyman's service, the office was much moved about, occupying numerous locations until the Government erected the present building, corner of 2nd and W. Norwegian Sts., which became its permanent home.

While Mr. Sillyman was postmaster, the Sillyman store and postoffice were located in the property taken in later years for the home of the "Republican" and "Morning Paper."

During June of 1825, Geo. Taylor was appointed postmaster. He held

the position for two years and in Sept. 1827, Chas. Boyer took charge, having the office until Enos Chiches-ter was appointed on Aug. 18, 1828, the year in which Pottsville became a borough.

Jos. Weaver was appointed postmaster on Feb. 21, 1839 and then John T. Werner held the commission from Sept. 8, 1842 until Aug. 16, 1844 when Michael Cochran was named.

When Daniel Krebs assumed the postmastership on Feb. 15, 1847, he established a regime of family postal officials which was carried through three generations. He received his commission from Pres. Jas. K. Polk. The postoffice was then conducted close to the later Exchange Hotel, in the property, on the west side of Centre St. upon which was built the present Eber store.

On May 2, 1849, Andrew Mortimer was made postmaster. The office at that time was in the Centre St. Focht business building, the present site of the Imschweiler store. In 1853, John Clayton was appointed and Henry L. Acker was postmaster in 1858. He served when the postoffice was located opposite the Hippodrome Theatre.

Still later the postoffice was conducted on the site of the Raring shoe store, 22 S. Centre St., and afterwards in the George M. Smith property, 121 W. Mahantongo St. Its last site was in the Union Hall Association building, on the north side of Mahantongo St., in the same square, the Academy of Music entrance being but a few doors far-

ther east. The postoffice was conducted at this location under the Sillimans, and also under Postmasters Mudey, Cole, Stoffregen and Schrink.

First Postmistress Appointed in 1861

Mrs. Margaret Sillyman was the first woman to be placed in charge of a postoffice in Pottsville, being appointed by President Abraham Lincoln in 1861. Her tenure was about two years. She was the widow of Samuel Sillyman who was one of the most prominent residents of the lower part of Schuylkill County. He was a coal operator and was active in having water service provided in Pottsville. He erected the brownstone building, in those days considered a mansion, at the southwest corner of Second and Mahantongo Sts., in later years the home of Colonel Thos. H. Rickert, now owned by Dr. J. L. Warne. It has been offered for sale to the City of Pottsville, in order to widen that part of Second St.

Associated with Mrs. Sillyman in the conduct of the postoffice were Daniel L. Krebs, son of the postmaster who served in 1847, Geo. F. Sillyman, Miss Amanda and Miss Elizabeth Sillyman, the latter being best known as "Libbie," as the clerical force, and Henry S. Sterner, 88 years old, of W. Norwegian St., still surviving, at that time carrying mails between the postoffice and the P. & R. Railway station.

Mr. Krebs was practically assistant postmaster, although the office had not been established at that time, for as chief clerk he actually ran the office. He also held simultaneously the berth as cashier of the Pennsylvania Bank and the position of Town Clerk.

It was on April 20, 1861, that Mrs. Sillyman took charge of the office

and served continuously until her death on April 15, 1882. Then Miss Amanda S. Sillyman took charge of the postoffice, the next day following her mother's demise, and continued it until May 22nd when, she, too, died. On May 12, 1882, President Chester A. Arthur appointed her postmaster. The appointment was confirmed by the Senate on May 17th and she died five days later.

After the death of her sister, Miss Elizabeth H. Sillyman became acting postmistress, continuing in that capacity until her appointment as postmistress, her commission bearing the date of June 21, 1882, which was also signed by President Arthur.

On Nov. 1, 1864, the postoffice, for the first time, was provided with a money order department. The Postmaster General designated 141 post-offices in the Union to start business on the same date that the important feature was introduced in Pottsville.

Dec. 1, 1873 marked a most important episode in Pottsville. It was the inauguration of the first free delivery service. Some months prior to that date application had been made for letter carriers. A special agent came to Pottsville from Washington, D. C., and made a thorough inspection of the Pottsville territory to be served by the free delivery. When he went back his report was favorable and it was not long afterward that the system was placed in operation.

James H. Mudey, whose reconverted homestead on Mahantongo Street is now used for St. Patrick's Parochial Schools was inducted into office as postmaster on Aug. 16, 1886.

Wm. R. Cole, a former newspaper editor, was commissioned postmaster on Jan. 6, 1891. He was in office four years and was succeeded by Louis Stoffregen, who served from

Feb. 9, 1895. On the payroll of the postoffice at that time were 23 clerks and carriers, including five railway clerks. The carriers were: Samuel Sillyman, Frank Shay, Wm. Fiedler, Geo. F. Morgan, John Jones, Abe Seiders, John J. Johnston, Wm. Faust, Edw. Martin, George Klare with substitute carriers, James Morris Russel and John Bishop.

Of this force there survive today: Messrs. John Jones, John Johnston and Morris Russel. All three are now on the retired list.

Originally there were five sub-stations but Nos. 2 and 4 were discontinued because they were conducted at a loss. Sub-stations on a paying basis were: No. 1 on Mauch Chunk St., opposite the hospitals; 3, on North Centre St., near the Armory; and 5, at Mt. Hope.

The site for the new postoffice was selected on Sept. 3, 1895, and it was at Second and W. Norwegian Sts.

Several frame buildings and ramshackle shanties on the new postoffice site were torn down on Aug. 16, 1898. John Ryan, a blacksmith, conducted his business on the Norwegian St. side. James Brennan, another blacksmith, had his shop on the Second St. side. Adjoining was a Chinese laundry. Elmore E. Hoffman, in another small frame shop, carried on a shoe-repairing business.

Later, "Skelly," as he was best known to his intimates, was commissioned second lieutenant of Co. H, Eighth Regiment, serving with the Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. He is now an active member of Col. Theo. F. Hoffman Camp, No. 32, United Spanish War Veterans, of this city.

Other occupants of the federal building site were: George Dentzer, who had a paint shop on the Second St. side; George Bernet, who ran an upholstering business there, and

Fred Seltzer, who opened his first plumbing shop at that point. The highest of the buildings on the site was occupied by Thomas Donahue's carriage factory.

Present Building Erected 1898

Hon. James B. Reilly, congressman, representing Schuylkill Co., secured the federal appropriation to cover the cost of the new postoffice project. The plans and specifications were prepared in the offices of the supervising architect, in the U. S. Treasury Dept., at Washington, D. C. The site was purchased for \$1,675.14. The contract was awarded to Prescott, Buckey & Callan, of Albany, N. Y., on July 9, 1898, for \$32,440.

After the work was started on the site there were several unforeseen and necessary items of work, such as filling in a well 40 feet deep, and additional foundation and surface drainage of the site, which added \$824 extra cost.

On Jan. 30th, the department awarded the contract for the heating and ventilating apparatus and equipment to Gaylord & Eipapenc, of Binghamton, N. Y., for \$2,375. Installation of a system of interior conduits and wires for electrical lighting was awarded on Feb. 20th, to J. E. Buchannan & Co., of Phila., for \$477.

The metal front lock boxes in the postoffice screen were supplied by the Yale & Towne Co., of New York City, for \$599.80. Combination electric and gas fixtures were furnished by the Cassidy & Son Manufacturing Co., of New York City, for \$603.25.

In order that the building might be occupied at the earliest possible moment, the department ordered the necessary equipment, and various items of furniture from a dozen different firms, well known through-

out the country, at a total cost of \$2,000.

G. C. Schrink (or Gus as he was always known) was a breezy type of politician who held various offices covering a decade or two. He came to Pottsville from Newark, N. J. and conducted a carpet business at 111 E. Norwegian St. He was a singer and musical entertainer of note and was an active member of the Pottsville Liederkrantz. He held a number of political positions and was finally named as Postmaster. After a tenure of nearly nine years, he went into retirement for a while and received state appointments, the last one being Inspector of Streams under the Commonwealth.

Frank W. Leib, prominent Republican, fireman and public school teacher was the next Postmaster, having been commissioned in April, 1908 and serving for four years. His regime proved a most creditable one. Mr. Leib is at this writing serving as City Assessor and President of the Union Bank and Trust Co.

James Kingsbury, a stalwart Democrat at a time when adherents of that party were so few that his intimates referred to him as "The Democratic Party" succeeded Mr. Leib, being appointed on June 27, 1912. He was a businessman prior to his appointment.

Parcel Post Service Inaugurated

Jan. 1, 1913, the Parcel Post Service was inaugurated in Pottsville. Heber Hooks was the first person to have a package delivered to him and Inspector Val Shoenberger was the first to receive an insured package. Postmaster Leib was the first to send out a package, it going to his nephew, Edw. Krieg, at the address 371 Front St., Pottsville.

Miss Alice Krebs, after a lapse of 35 years since the first woman had

had charge of the office, was commissioned on Sept. 15, 1921, starting as Acting Postmistress on Sept. 21, succeeding Mr. Kingsbury. She received her appointment on Feb. 5, 1922, serving four years and then was commissioned for four more years, retiring on May 5, 1930.

Her association with the office covered other capacities, however, for she succeeded her father who served as chief clerk and assistant postmaster from 1861 to 1886. She did not make application for her first appointment in the postoffice. Upon the retirement of her father, Postmaster Mudey suggested that as he could no longer serve, could he not recommend a member of the family. Miss Alice Krebs was suggested and assumed the position. Miss Krebs was identified with the postoffice for 44 years, from 1886 to 1930, having served under six postmasters, Messrs. Mudey, Stoffregen, Cole, Leib, Schrink and Kingsbury.

During her regime as postmistress many changes were made in the postoffice quarters in the lower part of the federal building. The annex to the western part of the building was built. This was done because of the congested conditions, particularly, in that part of the mailing department where the letter carrier force was formerly located.

The mail-carrying force had been moved to quarters upstairs on the second floor, the space formerly fitted up as a dormitory for the railway mail clerks. In the basement of the annex, which was built of brick, was provided what was called a "swing" room used by the letter carriers. This was their lounging and smoking quarters.

The postmaster's office was also moved upstairs from the room now used as the money order department, and has been located there ever since.

About the same time as this change was made, there were important changes made as to the money order and registry departments, also provision for handling the newly-created parcel post service. The glass screen and lock boxes, bordering on the lobby, as those are now constituted, were installed. For many years, Miss Krebs had direct charge of the money order department and for many years was secretary of the local Civil Service Board, her regime in that capacity having been started back in 1894. When she became assistant postmistress and then postmistress, she relinquished her Civil Service secretaryship to Miss Annie Kelly, who still discharges the duties.

Miss Krebs' first commission as postmistress, was signed by President W. G. Harding. The second carried the signature of President Calvin Coolidge.

During the regime of Postmaster Frank W. Leib in 1911, Miss Krebs made a trip to Italy where she took up native instruction in the Italian language, valuable to her because of coming in contact with so many aliens of that race in the discharge of her money order department duties.

During the term of Postmaster Kingsbury and part of the term of Postmistress Krebs, Capt. George R. Kalbach served as assistant postmaster. Later, John J. Johnston succeeded Captain Kalbach as assistant postmaster and served in that capacity until Jan. 28, 1933, when he was retired. The economic policy of the General Postoffice Department prevented the naming of another Assistant Postmaster to succeed Mr. Johnston. Under Postmaster Shrink, Miss Alice Krebs served as Assistant Postmistress, having been appointed in 1900.

It was nearly 32 years ago that the rural postal system was inaugurated in Schuylkill County. This gigantic task was handled by Val. Shoenberger, now living retired at 2049 W. Mahantongo St. This task was accomplished by him while he was acting special agent and, later, serving as a route inspector representing the General Postoffice Department.

Miss Krebs was succeeded by Daniel S. Gressang, whose commission was dated May 6, 1930. He was one of the most prominent active military officers in Penna. carrying the rank of Major. During the Philippine Insurrection he served in the U. S. Regular Army and was among the first troops who arrived on the Island of Samar, after two commands of Regulars had been massacred by Filipinos.

After that he had a long National Guard experience and gave service overseas during the World War.

During his term, he inaugurated the plan of using Army trucks to speed up the parcel post service during the Christmas rush.

Present Postmaster Appointed 1933

On Oct. 1, 1933, Jas. H. Rattigan, prominent in Democratic circles, succeeded Mr. Gressang and is the present incumbent. Although he has been Postmaster but a comparatively short time, he has already introduced several innovations which have benefited the service considerably, one of them being an extended lobby use of the postoffice during the Christmastide.

It is a matter of interest to know that all of the rural routes were laid out by Mr. Shoenberger from headquarters in this city, where he resided from the days that he broke into the postal service as a railway mail clerk. The rural mails are carried

over roadway for a total of 100 miles out of Pottsville.

With the other mileage there is involved a total of 800 miles throughout the county. Today there are in operation, in Schuylkill County, just 25 rural mail routes and the mail is carried to every part of the county, the service being extended to the most remote suburban points.

Inspector Shoenberger was retired on Sept. 30, 1933, after he had been in the general postal service for 42½ years. He spent 11½ years as a railway mail clerk, five years in laying out rural routes and 31 years as a Postal Inspector.

Postal service was given by Mr. Shoenberger, not alone in Schuylkill County, but it was extended to many parts of the United States. His duties took him to Augusta, Georgia, and the eastern Texas line, also to Maine and its northern boundary line to New Brunswick along the Dominion of Canada. He estimates that during the first decade of his long service, he traversed 560,000 miles. His entire traveling, in the postal service, would represent many times around the globe.

Aside from his rural service for many years, he was engaged in close postal investigation involving the zeal, persistence and the acumen which is required of the United States Secret Service, unravelling much lawless use of the mails. He figured in many famous cases and retired with a record which ranks among the best of any official who ever served in similar capacity.

As special agent, Mr. Shoenberger laid out, as the first rural service, Route No. 1, from Tamaqua, October, 1902. Routes Nos. 2 and 3, from Tamaqua were opened three years later. During the same month and year, the fourth route was laid out

from Barnesville and the fifth from Ringtown.

At that period of the early handling of the rural system, the first standard route in Pennsylvania was laid out in Westmoreland, at the time, when the carrier received a salary of but \$350 a year. A short time after establishing the first route, the carrier of a rural route received as compensation \$600 per year.

Economy Act Hits Rural Carriers

Compensation for rural carriers, as late as up to November, 1933, was \$1,800 per year for a standard route of 24 miles with an allowance of \$30 for every additional mile. Finally came the reduction, under the provisions of the Economy Act, which cut salaries 15 per cent. For maintenance of equipment, prior to November, an allowance of four cents per mile was given to cover maintenance of transportation equipment. This has been cut to one cent per mile.

After laying out the first five rural routes in Schuylkill County, Mr. Shoenberger, in 1903, established two routes from Weissport, where he was born and reared. Upon finishing that service he was transferred to Lehighton where he engaged in similar duties.

It was on Dec. 18, 1903 that Mr. Shoenberger came back to Schuylkill County and laid out Route No. 6, from headquarters at Mahanoy City. In July 1904, Routes Nos. 7 and 8 were laid out from Auburn. Later the service was cut to one route and then there was a consolidation with the mileage constituting the Orwigsburg route in 1916. During that year a route was laid out from Tower City.

Agent Shoenberger on April 15, 1904 was transferred to New York

City as his headquarters where he was located until 1905, routing the service through New York and the New England States.

During his absence from Schuylkill County, Inspector Nichols served Schuylkill County and also had his headquarters at Pottsville. This was in the days when most of the rural mail was served by means of a horse-drawn spring wagon. These "riggins," as they were termed, were hired by Agent Shoenberger, who covered many weary miles in this manner. The first three routes out of Tamaqua and that at Barnesville, were laboriously laid out by Mr. Shoenberger who traversed the entire territory in this type of conveyance.

Automobile Increases Rural Routes

The first automobile used in the rural delivery service were introduced in the Schuylkill County territory in 1911. After the use of the machines for five years, in 1916, the new routes were made longer and some of those already established were lengthened. By means of the service of machines, a rural carrier is able to cover a distance of 50 miles.

However, Orwigsburg Route No. 1 is the longest in the county covering a total of 41 miles, some of the territory traversed being somewhat difficult to handle. The shortest distance covered is 26 miles involving Routes Nos. 1 and 2, out of Ringtown, and Andreas, about 27 miles.

The first route, Pottsville No. 1, was laid out during Sept. 1904. Routes No. 1 out of Pottsville and No. 1, out of Orwigsburg, were established during the fall of 1904.

It was during April 1905, on his return from New York, that Inspector Shoenberger took up the most arduous and greatest part of his rural activities in Schuylkill County. Then he laid out Ringtown Route No. 2, Summit Station Route No. 1 and

Routes Nos. 1, 2 and 3 out of Pinegrove. In 1906 Valley View Route No. 1 and Routes Nos. 1 and 2, out of Hegins, were set up.

Laying out of additional rural routes then came in rapid succession. During the years 1905 and 1906, Shoenberger established No. 1 route out of Klingerstown, Nos. 1 and 2 out of Pitman, followed. Then one route, each, was opened out of Ashland and Andreas, respectively. Next, Routes Nos. 1 and 2, out of New Ringgold and a route out of Sch. Haven and Cressona, each, were followed.

By this time the county was fairly well provided with rural mail service. It improved from time to time, and essential changes made until 1916 when one route, each, was opened out of Auburn and Mahanoy City, respectively.

After that Inspector Shoenberger's services were again required out of this territory. He was one of a committee of 29 selected postal officials who were called to Washington, D. C., for executive work. This was the period of the sweeping reorganization during President Woodrow Wilson's administration.

Much interest is taken in the rural mail service as it affects the immediate territory in the lower part of the county and, especially, in the vicinity of the countyseat. Three rural routes are operated out of Pottsville.

The first covers a part of the Cressona territory, traversing the Panther Valley to Llewellyn and Dowdentown, near Minersville, also Hillside, just below Pottsville's southern boundary. It traverses a distance of just 38 miles.

Out of Pottsville, the second route covers 26 miles, proceeds to the Odd Fellows' Cemetery, Peach Mountain, Fishbach and Seltzer City, to Minersville, up the Heckschersville Valley to Mt. Pleasant; thence, coming in,

it approaches the Lytle colliery, then goes back to Minersville and to the state highway, to Marlin and to Pottsville. There is also conducted a lock pouch service to Seltzer City, Heckschersville, Glen Carbon and Buck Run for which the carrier receives \$12 per month extra compensation.

The third route out of Pottsville is via Palo Alto and the Port Carbon postoffice, Eagle Hill, the St. Clair postoffice and Wadesville, the carrier serving all the inhabitants in the surrounding territory. The route is continued crossing part of the Broad Mountain to Flowery Field and back along the highway, between Pottsville and St. Clair. The carrier goes to Mt. Carbon and to the upper end of Sch. Haven. Then there is covered the south side of Sharp Mountain, for a distance of 10 miles, to Willow Lake. Coming back the carrier goes to the Mt. Carbon gas station and then up the Tumbling Run Valley and return. The total distance covered is 37 miles.

Local Office Shows Increased Business

Naturally the business done at the Pottsville Postoffice has increased as the town has progressed. After the lapse of nearly 109 years and under the 23rd postmaster, it was shown that more than ten million pieces of mail passed through the office last year. About six million were received locally from other offices and from Pottsville went out over four million. The average distance covered by a carrier was 2,142 miles. Practically three parcels are received in this city for every one mailed out. City carriers served 8,104 homes and

business places. In addition 2,200 families are served daily by rural carriers, working through the local office. Collections on delivery parcels amounted to \$138.165.39. During the month of December, alone, local patrons purchased stamps having a value of \$16.084.50.

The present personnel of the post-office includes, in addition to the Postmaster, Thomas A. Rehr, superintendent of mails; and Chas. Gluntz, foreman.

Carriers: Harvey C. Berger, Jas. M. Blacker, Edwin F. Brommer, Jas. J. DeNapoli, Alex. J. Devine, Wm. M. Griesbaum, Arthur R. Kreckler, Jos. F. Pfeiffenberger, Chas. A. Schuettler, Reuben I. Webber, Edw. N. Williams, Herman H. Brommer, George G. Diehl, Jos. J. Leinheiser, Edgar A. Meade, Robert B. Sinton, John V. Gressang, Wm. G. Hoffman, Raymond M. Jones and Arthur Berger.

Rural carriers: Wm. Kalbach, Stanley Wagner, Claude Zweibel.

Substitute carriers: Thos. B. Martin, Fred. Schaeffer and Raymond J. Wachter.

The personnel of the force of clerks: Lawrence F. Fox, Chas. L. Fasold, George R. Kalbach, Annie A. Kelly, Katie A. Mitchell, Max F. Rees, Edith R. Rich, Gertrude A. Schaeffer, G. Harry Eckenrode, Harry J. Schumacher, Jas. L. Sterling, Harold B. Seiders, Fred. W. Storch, Arthur Wildermuth, Francis A. Francis, Jos. L. Makley and Harry Hale.

Mail Messengers: Paul Purcell with his employee, Fred. Imschweiler.

Janitors: Jacob B. Drobek and Geo. D. Schuler.

Evangelicals Grew Out of 1821 Revival

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* January 29, 1934)

"The first quarterly meeting services were held in the First Evangelical Church, West Arch St., on Sunday. Rev. Wm. Schuler of Frackville, conducted the forenoon service and administered communion. The evening service was conducted by the pastor." From the "Republican" of Jan. 29, 1894.

The First Evangelical Church, S. Centre St., dates back many years, almost to the beginning of the town, but during that time there have been many changes in the site upon which the church was located.

The cornerstone of the present church on S. Centre St. was laid on June 30, 1895 with impressive ceremonies by Rev. C. S. Haman. The dedication took place on Nov. 24th, 1895 with Bishop Rudolph Dubs presiding.

The Evangelical Church in Pottsville was the outgrowth of the great Orwigsburg Revival which began in 1821, continued for several years and spread for miles around. The very early history of the church is rather vague for the records are not now available. It is known, however, that Pottsville was connected with the Schuylkill Circuit until 1839 when Pottsville and Minersville were cut off and were made a station to be served by Rev. Michael Maize.

Until 1839, the services were held at the homes of the members. The first congregation was organized in the home of Mrs. Feltnagle, better known as Auntie Feltnagle. Some of the original members of the churches

were Mrs. Rachel Miesse, Mrs. Henry Super, Mrs. Lloyd, Mrs. Mendelssohn, John Rickert, the Hammers, Bertams, Schultzes and Leibs.

After worshipping for a time on N. Second St., the congregation occupied its first church, Lyon St., later W. Arch St., on the site later occupied by the Jewish Synagogue. This church known as the German Methodist Church was consecrated on May 19, 1839.

It was a two story frame building then. Part of the first story contained three rooms and was first used as a parsonage and afterwards as a janitor's home. The building was used for public worship until 1874 when the large brick church adjacent was built, the building later known as Zion's Evangelical Church and now as the Y. W. C. A. Building.

Until 1862 the services were conducted entirely in German and the members were known throughout the region as the German Methodists.

The lot on which the Zion Evangelical Church was built was bought from G. Weist by Wm. Boyer, the father of Dr. Francis Boyer. On this, the two story brick building was erected and was dedicated in 1874 by Bishop Dubs. The cost of the church was \$23,000.

In 1891, occurred the great church trouble which resulted in the disruption of the denomination. A part of the congregation withdrew from the West Arch St., congregation and for a time worshipped in the Dobbins Hall, corner Centre and Union

Sts. During this time Rev. H. W. Behney was the pastor.

However, on March 30, 1895, the congregation purchased the lot on which the Armory was to have been erected on S. Centre St., from the owner, Chas. I. Loesser, for \$6,000. When the dedication was held the church was designated as the United Evangelical Church of Pottsville. The United Evangelicals retained possession of the parsonage at 316 W. Arch St.

Since that time, the church has been renovated at different times. During 1915, the church debt amounting to \$3300 was cancelled and in the period between 1916 and 1921, the church was refrescoed and the exterior painted. An Austin pipe organ costing \$3700 was installed and minor improvements were made.

During the pastorate of Rev. Mark L. Burger, now deceased, the church merger took place. In 1925, the meetings of the East Penna. and the Penna. United Conferences were held in the S. Centre St. Church and during these sessions on Feb. 27, 1925, the merger of the Zion Evangelical Church and the S. Centre Evangelical Church, as it came to be known, was consummated. Rev. Wm. H. Christ, a former pastor of the local congregation, was again called to Pottsville to fill the pastorate. Since that time, the church has had two pastors, Rev. S. A. Sitler and the pastor at this writing, Rev. H. C. Moyer.

Rev. Sitler was made pastor of the Pottsville charge, after the sessions of the East Pennsylvania Conference of Feb., 1928. He came here following a successful pastorate at Palmyra. During the four years that he was stationed in Pottsville, the interior of the church on S. Centre St., was beautified and adorned at considerable expense. There was deli-

cate, tinted fresco work, of an elaborate character, done, and a new electric lighting system was installed.

Among other beneficial changes wrought in the accessories of the place of worship was discarding the old heating plant and introducing the city steam. The congregation prospered under Mr. Sitler's pastorate, and he left behind him, when he was transferred to another point in the Conference, a splendid record.

Succeeding him came the Rev. Moyer. He assumed the Pottsville charge upon transfer from the Hazleton charge, which he formerly served, moving his family to this city in March, after the meeting of Conference in Feb., 1932. He has spent 12 successful years in the ministry under the Evangelical Association denomination.

Recently at the final Quarterly Conference of the year, Rev. Dr. E. E. Stauffer, of Lebanon, Dist. Supt., found that Rev. Moyer is finishing rather a remarkable record when the industrial conditions of the community are taken into consideration.

It is interesting to state that when Rev. Moyer came to Pottsville, the brick parsonage, at 316 W. Arch St., was antiquated and did not begin to size up to the requirements of a modern parsonage. This condition was overcome by elaborate improvements and general repairing. The latter represented the accumulation of needed restoration work which piled up during a number of years.

Remodeling was undertaken and carried through on a scale, which, if it had to be paid for at the usual prices asked by artisans for the type of work carried out, would have entailed a total cost of fully \$3,000.

During Mr. Moyer's pastorate, the former substantial brick building, which was the home of the Zion

Evangelical Congregation, was turned over to the Young Women's Christian Association on a long lease.

The repairs and alterations with other improvements were done at the cost of the Y. W. C. A. To aid in covering the expense, the association has been relieved from payment of rent for a period of 30 months.

Another real estate holding of the Evangelical Association is the parsonage property, 404 W. Arch St., a two and one-half brick building. During the pastorate of the Rev. W. F. Savidge, now having a charge at Pembroke, he and his family occupied it. The property, at present, is used as a family residence.

During Rev. Moyer's pastorate, he will have added 75 new members. Twenty-five of these were received during the first year of his regime. The second year will be marked with 50 more members being added.

Work among the young people of the denomination has been developed to a gratifying degree among those of all ages, but especially among children of school age. He has conducted successful catechetical classes. The young people's societies of the denomination have also been strengthened and enlarged.

Among the men and boys of the denomination, Rev. Moyer has also carried on a most satisfactory work. This was inaugurated as a men's Bible class. At the annual banquet of the Bible class, on Sept. 24th, last, the work was broadened as the Albright Brotherhood to comply with the national regulations of that organization.

At the S. Centre St. Church, late last summer, a rally of adult Bible classes was held. Its purpose was to organize the Schuylkill County Bible Association, which was associated with the Federation of Men's

Bible Classes of Penna. The pastor, with Clyde Long and others of the denomination, was active in this organization work, the latter having charge of a men's chorus selected from several of the denominations at Pottsville, and also at Minersville.

The present personnel of the Official Board of the Church is as follows: L. K. Stoner, pres.; Clyde Long, vice-pres.; Robert Souders, recording secy; Cornelius Warmkessel, financial secy; and Wm. H. Warmkessel, treas.

The pastors of the church have been as follows: 1839, Michael Maize; 1840, Hoffman, Hesser and Mertz; 1841-42, Heim; 1843, H. Buck; 1844-45, W. Hein; 1846, J. P. Leib; 1847, S. Neitz; 1848-49, M. F. Maize; 1850, S. Neitz; 1851, J. Gross; 1852-53, E. Bast; 1854-55, J. Schnell; 1856, J. P. Leib; 1857-58, S. P. Reinoehl; 1859, L. Snyder; 1860, J. Gross; 1861-62, C. S. Haman; 1863, W. Yost; 1864-65, S. G. Rhoads; 1866-67, S. S. Chubb; 1867-69, L. H. Gehman; 1870, R. M. Lichtenwalner; 1871-72, H. A. Neitz; 1873-75, I. E. Knerr; 1876, A. M. Stirk; 1877-79, D. A. Medlar; 1880-82, O. L. Saylor; 1883-85, J. H. Shirev; 1886-87, W. C. Kantner; 1888-89, W. A. Leopold; 1890-91, J. M. Rinker; 1892-93, J. C. Krouse; 1894-97, H. W. Behney; 1898-1901, A. J. Brunner; 1902-04, G. A. Knerr; 1907-08, E. H. Romig; 1908-11, J. A. Sellers; 1912, C. L. Oswald; 1914-15, A. A. Hilleary; 1916-21, W. H. Christ; 1921-25, M. L. Burger; 1925-28, W. H. Christ; 1928-32, S. A. Sitler; 1932, H. C. Moyer.

Zion's Evangelical Church, since 1894: J. S. Newhart, 1894-97; I. F. Heisler, 1897-1900; I. F. Bergstresser, 1900-03; A. W. Buck, 1903-05; J. F. White, 1905-10; A. N. Metzgar, 1910-14; J. E. Heberling, 1914-20; W. F. Savidge, 1920-25.

Rotary Club Dates Back To 1915

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* January 31, 1934)

Each Wednesday in the month, the Pottsville Rotary Club holds its meeting, and it is, therefore, appropriate that the history of that body be used on that day.

Pottsville has had a Rotary Club since 1915.

Acting upon the suggestion that Pottsville have a Club, a number of Pottsville business men went to Reading on Jan. 6th, 1915 for the purpose of meeting with the Reading Club to see how an organization could be affected. The Pottsville party was composed of O. L. Underwood, W. C. Green, Chas. Haussmann, Geo. W. Bowers, Rev. C. M. Nicholas, J. E. Gregory, W. J. Sheldon, Jr., Robert A. Royal and J. H. Zerbey, Jr.

After the luncheon, the Pottsville Club held a meeting at which a temporary organization was formed with O. L. Underwood as President; J. E. Gregory as Treasurer and J. H. Zerbey, Jr., Secretary.

At the organization banquet which was held at Cafe Little on Jan. 14th, 1915, the temporary officers were elected permanently. Representatives were present from the Reading and Allentown Clubs. The Pottsville men who were present at the first meeting were as follows: O. L. Underwood, J. E. Gregory, Pierce Mortimer, F. H. Hause, Wm. A. Womer, H. I. Silliman, Dr. J. L. Warne, Leon H. Miller, Dr. F. H. McCarthy, Robert Braun, E. R. Barclay, Fred Hoefel, C. A. Whitehouse, E. J. Bradley, J. H. Rabenau, Albert Roehrig, Rob-

ert Scheerer, W. L. Straub, Jas. E. Morris, H. L. Reno, J. H. Zerbey, Jr., E. S. Filbert, Dr. W. F. Doyle, I. Henry Lidy, W. J. Sheldon, Jr., Chas. Haussmann, C. P. Hoffman, J. H. Zerbey, John Hock, W. B. Hill, R. A. Sylvester, J. Arthur Sylvester, H. R. Knapp, W. Guy Payne, Irvin Heinz, Elmer E. Nagle, M. M. Rice, Chas. F. Hummel, John S. Brobst, G. M. Gunn, C. F. VonderHeiden, W. J. Schick, Marcus Schiff, Harold Schimpf, Wm. C. Green, W. H. Leidich, Wm. S. Pugh, Norman H. Rich, T. R. Daddow, P. V. Curley, C. B. Harvey, Chas. M. Wagner, Wm. E. Quinlin, Geo. W. Bower, Frank Taylor, W. J. Fleet, Wm. Quinn, Dr. G. R. S. Corson, C. Messersmith. Several who were unable to attend that evening announced their intention of becoming charter members. They included John Raring, E. J. Miller, Hugh Dolan, Rev. C. M. Nicholas and Julian Ulmer.

The Pottsville Club was one of the first to be formed in the county. Its charter number, 157, indicates just how early the local club was organized for the clubs now number 3,500. For years, Rotary was confined to this country alone but it has now become international and can be found in 72 different countries even in faraway Japan and India.

The local club decided to hold weekly meetings and join with the others towns in the district in the Rotary activities. It was planned to have a special speaker each week, the speaker to give a talk on some profession or line of business.

It was not long before the local club was right in the front in connection with all civic enterprises. Three years after its organization, in 1918, a very busy year developed. In March of that year, they decided to sponsor a Scout Troop under the auspices of B. M. Rifkin. Later on in that same year, they appointed a committee to encourage home gardening and secured over 300 plots which were planted. This was during the drive for War Gardens. The late Daniel Duffy was chairman of this committee. The Scout Committee was composed of Judge Wilhelm, M. J. Sheldon and Geo. R. Moll.

July 5th of that same year, the club decided to limit its membership to fifty members.

Their work was carried out successfully and in 1927 the decision was made to be of some special service to their fellowmen. N. H. Rich, Dr. J. L. Warne and Frank Fisher, having heard of the many crippled children who were in need of attention, proposed to the club at one of its meetings that the Rotary Club should sponsor the Crippled Children's Work in the city. The suggestion was received enthusiastically and a committee was named to take charge of the work. Little did the members think when the plan was finally adopted at a meeting in October, 1927, that it would expand into the organization it is at the present writing. There were so many requests for help that it became necessary to establish a county organization and thus came into existence the Crippled Children's Society of Schuylkill County.

In addition to the work with the crippled children, the establishment

of the Rotary Patrols to protect the school children while on their way to school, sponsoring and supervising dental clinics, adopting the Joel T. Boone Sea Scout Ship and sponsoring the Scout troop have all been a part of the program of the Rotary.

One of the main events in its history has been the entertainment of the district Rotary Convention here in April of 1929. For three days, Rotarians from every town in the eastern section of the state were entertained here so royally that the convention is still referred to as one of the best in the history of Rotary.

The members have been very much interested in their work with the boys. They have striven to develop leaders and to build up a community spirit. Clarence E. Kendricks, a member of the club, has always had charge of the boys' work program, being selected for this position because of his contact with the Boy Scout Area Council in the county. Occasionally, a special program is planned which is attended by the boys who associate with the men and become acquainted with them.

At one time, it was a practice to send the boys away to a summer camp. This was done for some time but the practice has now been discontinued.

The officers of the Rotary Club at this writing are as follows: L. A. BuDahn, President; Geo. L. Hill, Vice-Pres.; Secy., Russel C. Bevan; and Sergeant at Arms, Fred Minnich. The late Elmer Nagle was treasurer of the club since its inception.

The Board of Directors is composed of: L. A. BuDahn, Geo. L. Hill, R. C. Bevan, L. K. Stoner, C. M. Keim, Milton D. Moore, G. T. Burd and Thos. H. Golden.

Jos. Elison, Pole Explorer, Buried Here

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper."* February 1, 1934)

With daily news being received by radio from Admiral Byrd and his antarctic expedition, memory stirs within many Pottsville people of a Pottsville boy who, as a member of an expedition to the North Pole, suffered untold agonies and lost his life because the party of which he was a member was unable to receive any aid from the outside world for almost three years.

What a difference between 1881 and 1933. That young man was Sergt. Joseph Elison, a member of the well known Elison family of Yorkville and his remains now lie buried in St. John's Yorkville cemetery, where they were interred with all the ceremony befitting a hero.

His death was due to his heroism in volunteering to face death with three of his comrades in an attempt to find a hidden cache of meat 35 miles across the frozen Arctic Region, which would keep the expedition from starving to death.

Letters in possession of the Elison family and published in the "Republican," told of the enthusiasm with which he prepared to accompany his Commander and of the confidence with which he faced the journey. In one of his letters he gave directions for his family to send some supplies to him to be delivered when the relief supply ship would arrive in the Arctic regions the next year—the supply ship which, through a blunder, failed to leave any supplies and left the expedition there to starve.

The expedition was formed by the U. S. Government following a policy

proposed by the International Polar Committee, the object being that the various governments establish relief stations in the Arctic to enable expeditions to the North and South Pole to have supplies. The U. S. pledged two stations, one at Point Barrow, Alaska and the other at Lady Franklin Bay in Grinnell's Land.

Lieut. A. W. Greeley of the U. S. Army was placed in command, with 23 officers and men, chosen from the flower of the U. S. Navy. Among those chosen was Joseph Elison.

Elison and his brother, Charles, had come to this country from Germany.

They were of thrifty, sturdy German stock and of soldierly bearing. Joseph joined the Army and was very fond of the life. He was known as being fearless and reliable and, for that reason, was one of those who was accepted to go on the expedition.

There were 25 members in the Signal Service Expedition commanded by Lieut. A. W. Greeley. The steamer that transported them to Lady Franklin Bay, Grinnell Island, returned to New Foundland and left them to be taken care of by later relief expeditions. Through some misunderstanding, the relief expeditions of 1882 and 1883 missed them and the winter of 1884 found the twenty-five men, nineteen of whom were enlisted men from the U. S. Army, three were officers, one a surgeon and two Eskimo servants, facing death from cold and starvation

in the Arctic regions. A U. S. Reserve Naval Vessel, which was their last hope, mistook some records found at the designated place and retreated south, leaving them utterly without hope and with rations enough to last only forty days at the very most.

They knew that they would have to stay there from October to March at least in a zero temperature, with a daily ration of food of about a pound of meat, eight ounces of bread and a few evaporated potatoes.

Hope was slow in dying, however, and they courageously started to prepare for their stay. A hut was built a few yards from the shore of the sea. There were only stones enough available to build the walls three and a half feet high. An inverted whaleboat was used for the roof, and strips of canvas stretched over oars was used for the remainder. Water was poured on the walls to make it freeze into a wall. Stones and blocks of ice were heaped up against the side of the hut and on the roof. When it was finished, there was barely room for the twenty-five men to lie down in their sleeping bags. The cooking was done over a sheet iron cylinder, blubber, barrel staves and wood found in the caches, which had proved disappointing as far as edible food was concerned. In the center was a lamp, constructed from an inverted tomato can, filled with blubber in which pieces of old socks and rope were used as a wick. The heavy smoke filled the rude hut until the men could scarcely breathe and even at that the lamp could only be used for a short time each day. Never did the temperature rise above zero and the sleeping bags were frozen in the ice most of the time.

The men were slowly starving to death and five young men, all of them sergeants, volunteered to travel

35 miles to Cape Sabine to see if they could find a cache of 140 pounds of beef left by the Nares expedition in 1875-76. The party consisted of Frederick, Linn and Elison, under command of Sergt. Rice.

Thirty-five miles remained to be traversed in a zero temperature, hauling a sled by hand, camping in the open ice fields without the proper clothing.

The equipment of Rice's party consisted of a light sledge, a sleeping bag which would hold all four of them, a rifle, an axe, an alcohol lamp, a pot for cooking and rations which would give them a pound of meat and bread a day. It was early in November and already the Arctic day was dying. There was only a half light at midday when the sun came to the horizon for a short time. It was then that the expedition started out.

Traveling Under Difficulties

During the fourth day the men had to cross masses of ice heaped up from 20 to 40 feet and around which the fierce wind had piled the drifted snow. Frequently the sledge capsized and rolled over and over and they had to dig it out with their hands. On the afternoon of the fourth day, Cape Isabella and their destination was reached.

Securing the meat and sustained by only a small cup of tea, they started back for the hut. They had only been traveling about fourteen hours when Elison suddenly stopped, both of his hands and feet were absolutely devoid of feeling. Rice knew what that meant and gave orders to stop. There was such a stiff wind blowing that they were not able to keep the light burning to warm any food.

They crawled into their sleeping bag and Elison was placed between

Rice and Frederick. The contact with their warm bodies helped to draw out some of the frost and gave him some relief. In the morning they prepared some warm food and started out. Elison walked behind the sledge but his steps soon became slower as his hands and feet were again frozen. The next day he became helpless and his face was frozen so badly that he could not open his eyelids.

Rice had to decide what to do. Knowing what the meat meant to his starving comrades, he hesitated to abandon it but he knew that they could not get Elison back unless they abandoned the meat. This was done and the rifle was left sticking at the place where they left the meat. They reached Eskimo Point where the expedition had been blown ashore and there found some driftwood with which they built a fire, but instead of relieving Elison, this made his suffering excruciating as his limbs began to thaw out.

As they started out on the fourth day, Linn had to push Elison along while Frederick hauled the sledge. But their strength was also giving out. On the way to the meat cache, their thirst had been frightful and Elison had eaten some snow in an attempt to quench it and this was responsible for the frost affecting him more than the others. He begged the others to go on and save themselves and let him die but they refused and struggled on.

At Rosse Bay they halted. The distance to the hut was then about fifteen miles with the wind blowing with hurricane force. Rice decided that the only way to save themselves was for him to go on. He ordered Linn, Frederick and Elison to get into the sleeping bag and remain there while he set out for the hut.

Rice left at six o'clock and arrived at the hut about midnight, exhausted. After they had forced rum down his throat he was able to tell them that Elison was dying at Rosse Point.

Brainard and Christiansen, the Eskimo, were sent out with food and stimulants and it took them seven and a half hours to cover the distance that Rice with superhuman effort had been able to cover in six. They found that Linn and Frederick had frosted their faces and extremities while in the sleeping bag.

Lieut. Lockwood, Dr. Pavy and five others followed with the larger sledge. Brainard and Christiansen took Frederick and Linn back to the hut while the other party brought in Elison. It took them fourteen hours to get Elison back to the hut. The temperature was more than thirty degrees below zero.

Rice and Frederick were little the worse for their experience but Linn never recovered his reason.

Elison went on living, despite his fearful condition. The frost had left his face with little resemblance to a human being. His feet had sloughed off at the ankles and his hands had dried up and became mummified but, nevertheless, he was one of the most cheerful members of the party in the hut and did much to keep the party alive by urging them on to a further desire to live.

Seven Survive Terrible Ordeal

On the 22nd of June, 1884, there remained but seven of the party, all of them so gaunt and horrible looking, with long matted hair, and little but skin remaining over the bones that they were merely waiting until death would release them. Those who still remained were Lieut. Greeley, the commander, 1st Sergt. David L. Brainard, Sergts. Julius R. Freder-

ick, Francis Long, Jos. Elison, Henry Biederbick and Maurice Connell.

It lacked but two months of being three years since the Steamer *Porteus* had transported them north. The love of life had departed and they only went on living. The others had died one by one as they could no longer stand it.

But, in spite of this military rule had persisted to the end and Lieut. Greeley, who was by this time fast losing his reason, had been the commander every minute of the time. The men could no longer walk because of weakness. They could only manage to roll from place to place and crawl about. For a time they had been able to catch the tiny shrimps that inhabited the waters and they were able to get some sustenance from the moss and lichens. But, now they were no longer able to get these and they had divided the oil-tanned sealskin covering of their sleeping bag and were chewing on this.

On this morning, there was a stiff gale blowing and the tent was blown down. Unable to muster enough strength to put up the tent, they had crawled under the canvas and laid down to die. In order that they might not suffer from thirst, water cans had been dragged up and placed alongside of each man. Elison was still the strongest, in spite of his terrible condition, but he was unable to help himself and in order that he might not have to die of thirst in case his companions died first, a spoon was tied to the stump of his hand to enable him to get some water up to his lips.

Early in the evening, a new sound was heard. It sounded like a whistle from a steamer. Not believing it possible, they decided that it must be the wind whistling over the cans of water. But, when it was heard again, Greeley ordered Brainard and

Long to see whether there was any chance of a ship arriving. They went down to a point that commanded a view of the sea but they saw nothing. Brainard went back to report to Greeley but Long remained there.

Several moments later, the sound of someone running was heard by those under the canvas and the voice of Jas. W. Norman, the icemaster on the *Proteus*, was heard calling.

Relief Expedition Finally Arrives

It took some time for the men to realize that they were actually saved but two ships of the U. S. Navy were anchored a short distance below and by midnight, the survivors were on their way home. The camp was searched and the records preserved and the dead were exhumed from their temporary graves and placed on board ship.

Elison was unable to survive the secondary amputation which the physicians decided was necessary and died on board ship on the way home. The operation was performed July 6, 1884 and he died at God Haven three days later.

The relief expedition of the Navy Department was commanded by Admiral, then Commander, W. S. Schley.

While Greeley's men were starving, President Arthur appointed a court of inquiry to see why the Army relief expedition of 1882 and 1883 had failed either to reach Lady Franklin Bay or to provision the Cape Sabine region. Facts were brought to light by this court that brought the realization that the relief expedition should be handled by the Navy Department and Commander Schley was put in charge and before long was on his way with relief for the suffering expedition.

The facts about the expedition were secured from accounts published in the "Republican" from interviews secured by the "American Magazine"

and from records in possession of the Elison family.

The funeral of Jos. Elison was held in Pottsville on Sunday afternoon, at 2 o'clock, Aug. 10, 1884. It was attended by throngs of people representing this place and many towns in the vicinity of the county seat. The body was enclosed in an iron casket, heavily rivetted. It was shipped to Pottsville from Phila. A delegation of Gowen Post No. 23, G. A. R., received it at the P. & R. station. The casket was so heavy that fourteen men were required to handle it.

The casket was taken to the home of Alois Elison, in Yorkville. A catafalque was there erected and the casket, which could not be opened, was placed upon it, a guard of honor being posted by the G. A. R. Rites of the Catholic Church were performed by the Rev. F. W. Longinus, rector of St. John's parish, at the home of the brother and also at the Yorkville cemetery where interment was made. All the societies of the parish paid the last tribute of respect.

Military Escort For Casket

The G. A. R. guard escorted the casket, which was placed in the hearse of Undertaker Joseph C. Heiken, from the Alois Elison residence, down Mahantongo St., to Centre, up Centre to Market, out Market to the place of burial.

The procession of escort, forming on Mahantongo St., right resting on Second, comprised the following: Pottsville police force; Major Levi Huber, of the G. A. R., marshal, Geo. W. Kennedy and Dr. D. W. Bland, aids; West End Band; Joseph Fleischut, aid, and St. Bernard's Beneficial Society, St. John the Baptist Beneficial Society, St. John's Society, Washington Beneficial Society, German Me-

chanics, Emeralds and P. O. S. of A.

In addition to a number of civic societies and representatives of the Schuylkill County Bar, the following also made up the procession of escort: Pottsville Fire Department, Third Brigade Band, Company H, Eighth Infantry, N. G. P., Company K, Eighth Infantry, N. G. P., of St. Clair; Company F, Fourth Infantry, N. G. P., Yorkville Band.

There were also in line these Posts of the G. A. R., of the county: Shenandoah, St. Clair, Minersville, Port Carbon and Sch. Haven. Then marched Gowen Post No. 23, with the Guard of Honor, and hearse and many carriages carrying a host of relatives and friends.

There were four Elison brothers, all natives of Germany. Joseph, the Polar explorer, and August, who were bachelors; Alois and Carl or Charles, both of whom married and reared families. All four have long since been dead.

Alois conducted a business in Yorkville for many years. These children survive of his family: Mrs. Jos. Bettler and Mrs. Caroline Bender, both of Reading; Mrs. Valentine Montag, Joseph, Peter and George Elison, all of Pottsville.

Carl Elison was a prominent member of the Pottsville Liederkrantz, West End Hose Co. and other organizations. He was among the first trolley conductor to run a car over the local electric railway shortly after it was opened through Pottsville and its suburbs.

Surviving of Carl Elison's family are the following, all of Pottsville: Frank A. Elison, Chas. Elison, Fred Elison, Mrs. Peter Hoke, Mrs. Robert Ryon, Mrs. John Kuss, Mrs. Jas. Lundy and Mrs. Wm. Dimmerling.

Maps Depict County History

(By W. J. CALHOUN)

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* February 2-10, 1934)

Schuylkill County is rich in historical lore. Few attempts have been made by anyone to collect and assemble this material from old records, printed articles in papers and books and traditions handed down by older people. The schools of the county teach the history of the nations of antiquity and of old world peoples, but of their own community the pupils remain ignorant because of lack of printed material at hand. The pupils in United States history study of the privations, the suffering and the struggles of the Pilgrims and Puritans of New England; but of the heroism, the rugged individualism, and the struggle for liberty of the pioneer German settlers of Schuylkill County the books say nothing. The accounts of the trips of Conrad Weiser, Zinzendorf, Muhlenberg, and others over the trails from south of the Blue Mountains, across Schuylkill County, to the Susquehanna, are as thrilling as those of any men of colonial and revolutionary period recorded in the books. The discovery of coal and the building of the canal and the railroads furnish enough romance and thrills for a dozen stories if we only had had a novelist to write them. The coming of the different nationalities of Europe followed the development of the coal and the railroad industries; and the blending of these people into a truly American citizenry is a profitable study in civics. The development of the churches and of the schools naturally follows for they played a great part in the life of the early settlers.

At a dinner given in the autumn of 1933 by the J. H. Zerbey Newspapers, Inc., at the Necho Allen hotel to the Schoolmen's Club of Schuylkill county, the matter of the writing and publishing of the Joseph H. Zerbey History of Schuylkill county, was discussed.

This work had already been started by the staff of the newspapers and was in process of taking on a definite form as a feature of the observance of the 75th birthday anniversary of Mr. J. H. Zerbey and the 50th anniversary year of the "Pottsville Evening Republican", when the sudden death of Mr. Zerbey caused the project to be dropped for the time being.

At this meeting, J. H. Zerbey, Jr., proposed that the project be continued as a memorial to Father Zerbey, this proposal having been endorsed by the directors of the J. H. Zerbey Newspapers Inc., and that the schools participate in the preparation of some of the material to be published. It was unanimously agreed that the Schoolmen sponsor the participation of the schools and that the work be done by the various districts.

The following committee of the Schoolmen's Club was appointed to formulate plans and have charge of the editorial work involved: A. C. Moser, Coaldale, Chairman; I. A. Seltzer, County Superintendent of Schools; George W. Carl, Supervising Principal School, Butler Township; J. J. Morfing, Principal, Mahanoy Township High School; W. C. Kutz, Supervising Principal, Pinegrove Borough Schools, and J. O. Ziegler, teacher, Porter Township High School.

The committee outlined the following plans, which were unanimously approved by the Club at the meeting in November 1933: Some teacher in each of the 68 school districts of the county take up the work of writing the history of his district as a school project, either by a class or by a group of pupils to be known as the local history committee. This group of pupils, under the direction of the person in charge, shall collect material from records and get information from persons about the settlement, development, industries, incidents, schools, churches, families, persons, etc., of the township or borough. This material shall then be discussed by the group and prepared in manuscript form, and presented to the committee of the Schoolmen's Club who will have charge of preparing the "copy" for publication. Credit is to be given to the school, teacher, pupils and all others who make a contribution.

J. H. Schrope, Hegins, a former Asst. County Supt. of Schools was selected as contact man between the J. H. Zerbey Newspapers and the various school districts.

High Schools Cooperate

In the districts that have high schools the writing of the history was made a school project of the social studies class, under the supervision of one or more of the teachers. In most of the other districts one of the teachers assumed the responsibility and he secured the cooperation of other teachers of the district. In a few districts, persons not directly connected with the school have accepted the invitation to collect data and prepare the copy. In many schools the work has been made a real project. The pupils have been organized into groups with definite assignments. They gathered material from books in libraries, examined records in historical societies and court house; in some instances taking trips to dis-

tant parts of the State and even other States for information. But by far the greatest benefit to the pupils was interviewing persons in the community. In each community were found old people who remember definitely some incident that came under their observation or which was handed down to them from former generations. These reminiscences were incorporated by the young historians into a story of their local history. It was a real project; and the information thus gathered makes very interesting reading. And the schools of tomorrow of Schuylkill county will have each their local history brought down to date; and the county will be richer because of the contributions made to its literature by the schools of today.

Possibly no subject of as general interest developed from the researches of the schools of the county, into the early history of the region, as that which came from the study of the maps made of the anthracite territory and extending at frequent intervals from 1749.

Seeking a definite starting point from which the schools could start their work, the Schoolmen of the county, endeavored to make the early formation of the county lines as the points around which the various histories of particular regions would revolve.

This movement naturally brought about a search for early maps which would throw some light on the subject of boundary lines and the consequent wealth of material unearthed brought about one of the most interesting searches made by the J. H. Zerbey Newspapers in connection with the compilation of the latest of the county histories.

In this connection, considerable credit must be given to the Department of Internal Affairs at Harris-

burg for the zeal which it displayed in searching through the voluminous records of that office for every piece of material which would have a bearing on county history.

Secretary of Internal Affairs Philip H. Dewey, intensely interested in the manner in which the Schuylkill county records were being assembled, took a personal interest in the endeavor to have the state material incorporated in the story of Schuylkill county as one of the first steps of this kind in the state.

Under his direction, Robert F. Gorman, Publicity director of the department, came to Pottsville and after consultation with representatives of the Zerbey Newspapers, went back to Harrisburg armed with a mass of notations as to what was wanted. The task of searching for the maps and other material was turned over to Warren J. Daniel, director of the Land Records Bureau and as a result of the co-operation of these men and frequent trips to Harrisburg by staff men of the newspaper where original records were obtained and photographed, a huge mass of material was turned over to the newspapers for incorporation into the history.

It is the purpose of these articles to deal with this material, as a separate and distinct contribution to the history, chiefly because of the fact that much of this data hitherto unpublished confirms many of the earlier histories and on the other hand in many instances tends to dispute what has been formerly considered as reliable sources of information.

The maps write their own narrative of a migration into an unknown land, that carries all of the color and heroism of the winning of the west.

Less than 100 miles from Phila., the Blue mountains to the early settlers was an impassable barrier be-

hind which the Indian tribes hid in the fastness of impregnable mountains.

The more daring of the settlers made their way through the Swatara Gap and at Pt. Clinton pushed their way to the Sharp mountain barriers.

This was the start of the immigration that as late as the Civil War period had not fully explored within the confines of the county as it is now known.

Lines and boundaries varied in the maps as they were developed by the various surveyors and a scrutiny of them shows that much of the early work in this respect was guess work and speculation.

Streams Used as Boundaries

The only definite points in many of the maps as pointed out by the state officials were the streams, followed as the chief trails of the pioneers who located their grist mills and the saw mills along the water pathways that furnished the easiest guide through the mountains. It was by these streams and the mountain ranges that the boundary lines were fixed.

Today, the trees and the stones that marked the boundaries of the warrants issued by the state have disappeared but the areas can still be traced out by following the courses of the streams. In this respect, the Schuylkill and its tributaries in the eastern section and the Susquehanna and its branches in the western section of the anthracite field are irrefutable guides to the trails that the early settlers followed.

The progress made by the early settlers is found in a series of maps extending over the colonial period and shortly after the War of 1812.

The first map is that of 1749 then others came in periods ranging from a few years to over a decade. The

maps taken in sequence show clearly and distinctly the progress of the county settlements.

In 1749, directly after the "Indian purchase" which extended the boundaries of "Pensilvania" beyond the Blue Mountains and after an apparent trip of some four years along the various trails of the new territory, Lewis Evans published a "Map of Pensilvania, New Jersey, New York and the three Delaware counties." according to an act of Parliament.

Covered with annotations and descriptions of what he had learned, Evans inscribed across the vast acreage lying between the Susquehanna and the Delaware the words "Part of Aquanushionigy." This area on the fringes was profusely marked with the names of trails, towns and villages but the two words "Endless Mountains" formed the sole designation for what is today the anthracite region, one of the wealthiest spots of the state in point of natural resources.

The Blue or the Kittatiny Mountains form the southern boundary line of this vast domain and some ten miles (estimated) north is sketched the "Tuscarora Hills" a name which later was to figure in many of the original warrants and deeds to the present acreage of Schuylkill county. For this vast domain, Evans has written across the face of the map the following significant, if incorrect, conception of what had brought about the mountain ranges that years later were to become the source of one of the world's greatest fuel supply.

Remarks on Endless Mountains

"These mountains are about 900 miles in length and back of Pensilvania (the boundary then known) from 70 to 100 miles, right across: scarce an acre of 10 of which is capable of culture. They are not confusedly scattered here and there the lofty peaks

overtopping one another but stretch in long uniform ridges, scarce half a mile perpendicular in any place I saw them. They furnish endless funds for systems and theories of the world, but the most obvious to me was that this earth was made of the ruins of another, at the creation. Bones and shells which escaped the fate of softer animal substances we find intact with the old materials and elegantly preserved in the loose stones and rocky basis of the highest of these hills. These mountains existed in their present elevated heights before the deluge, but not so bare a soil as now. The further ridges which are much the largest and highest proceeding from the inclination of the whole towards the sea by a very rich land even on the tops; while the very vallies of the hitherside seems swept of all the soil. Their height no doubt rendered them less exposed to that general devastation, and preserved them unhurt, while the soil and the loose parts of the lower hills and vallies agitated by a greater weight of water were borne away suspended in the dashing waves and thrown downwards of stratas of different kinds as the billows roll'd from the different parts—Doctor Woodward from infinite examples discovered that the world had been in a state of dissolution but the power he ascribes to the water of deluge is too much a miracle to allow belief.

We have here glaring marks of a deluge of far more recent date which the compass of Britain might not perhaps have furnished the Dr. with."

The Susquehanna river, marking the western boundary of this unknown tract, was apparently marked farther east than its present location. The Swatara Creek is clearly defined, and is shown marked going through a gap in the Blue Mountains and on partially through the Tuscarora Range, a vast extent of blank territory running from the Susquehanna to the present Mahoning and Lizard Creeks (which are also marked on this map, being designated as St. Anthony's wilderness).

Pinegrove, according to this map, takes its position as the earliest town of record in Schuylkill County, being clearly defined on the map of Mr. Evans, directly north of the Tuscarora Mountains, between two branches of a stream which is designated on this outline as Kind Creek.

Laurel Creek is also marked as being in the territory now comprising Schuylkill County, while a "Moxanay" Creek is also designated. Farther up the Kind Creek, between the Moxanay, Evans had the notation "A path to Shamokin scarce passable for three steep mountains."

Directly southeast of Pinegrove, he has the notation "A steep descent," while on the east branch of the Susquehanna, a town marked as Wioming has the notation above it "Impenetrable mountain."

A dotted line, marked as "a prick" line, purports to donate the author's route from the then "Pensylvania" to Oswego in 1743, this line apparently marked his trail along the Susquehanna to the northern boundary of Pensylvania over to what is marked as the east branch of the Delaware to a point designated as Station P "Cushuytink," which he has dated as 1746. This line apparently carried him up beyond the present anthracite limits, and along this line he has brought the west branch of the Delaware, so designated on the map up as far as the mountain, and has marked in there "a mineral spring" and the Indian designation Aquanshicola. This map was unquestionably faulty in its distances, but it is interesting to note that even in later years, in the vicinity of the present Tamaqua-Tuscarora area, a salt spring is noted, while apparently on the same ground an Indian burial place is plainly designated.

Indian names abound on this map, and already the early Lehigh Valley towns of Nazareth and Bethlehem—designated Bethlehem—appear, while on the Schuylkill, we find Reading, Monacacy, and Wisers, the latter apparently marked as a camp, but undoubtedly what was later the site of Conrad Weiser's house, is designated.

Both the Lehigh and the Schuylkill are not defined after they reach the Tuscarora range.

In regard to the Susquehanna, Evans has to say "Though the largest in the British Dominion affords no sea navigation for the falls below and the bar at the mouth; but by its length and large branches communicating with the country beyond the mountains makes amends and conveniences for Indian navigation with canoes. From the lakes at the head of this branch to the falls below Wi-Oming, there is no obstruction, and thence to Paxton are five or six falls, which may be shot pretty safely with a Fresh. (Freshet.)"

The map also contains notations regarding Philadelphia, with the following quotations:

"By one year's observation, and that not remarkable for extremes of heat or cold, Farenheit's pocket thermometer was from 14 degrees to 84. The navigation of Philadelphia, is almost every winter stopped by ice for two or three months."

He continues: "This country is finely improved to the mountains and the inhabitants enjoying the fruit of the difficulty and materials are never wanting to furnish the industrious in profusion. It is a country of liberty and good laws where justice is administered without rigor or partiality."

Revolutionary Map

About the period of the Revolution we find Berks County cut from Pensylvania extending from the Delaware up to the Susquehanna, beyond

the Lycoming Creek, with the eastern and western boundary about the Catawessy on the east, and a little west of Shamokin on the west. Schuylkill County is becoming defined in this map, Fort Henry appears on the Swatara, and the Schuylkill has been carried or outlined to the end of its various branches in the anthracite region. The Machanoy Creek is defined on the map, and believe it or not, two crosses mark the appearance of coal land north of the Machanoy Creek, while farther south, north of the present location of Pottsville, is found coal, also marked with a vast area defined as "Charbon de Terre." The county has on this map three distinct settlements. Pinegrove, for some reason or other, is omitted, but we find on the Schuylkill river what is marked as Bohondy Creek, Jordan's Mill, and what is understood to have been somewhere in the vicinity of Heckscherville, Hughs Mill, and farther west, on a branch of the Swatara "Reed's" House.

The turnpike up through Reading makes its appearance as far as Hughs, while a cut-off marked along "Tumadiguay Creek" (Tumbling Run?) continues up along the Catawissa into Fort Augusta.

The western end of the county was being explored, with the Liken's Valley marked, as well as the Wikisnisky Creek, Mahantongo, Spread Eagle, Long Pine Creek, Deep Creek, Laurel Creek being defined, while farther north we find the Green Bryar as a tributary of the Machanoy, as is also Crab Run. This is the extent of the markings on this map of the present Schuylkill County territory.

On or about the End of the Revolution, we begin to find the mountains classified. Mahanoy Mountain is defined as the extreme northern ridge

within the county confines, with the Mahantongo directly south, taking on some of the present characteristics of the county terrain. The Broad Mountain is inserted, and the Blue Mountain, of course, is marked as the southern boundary. There are evidences on this map that the push of the immigration from Berks County, although it was still Berks, had started along the Schuylkill and its major tributary, the Little Schuylkill. We find directly north of Hamburg (which is spelled Hamburgh) the old turnpike clearly defined, as well as the Minick's house, Potts, Cleckners and Yarnalls, the apparent prominent places between the southern and northern boundary lines. Up the Little Schuylkill we find Buzards, Swarts's, Dresches on the road to Catawessy town, and Shurs, Shelhamers, Lewis's, Gilberts in West Penn.

Over on the Swatara, as to what is now Pinegrove, we find marked instead of Pinegrove, Uhlers.

South of Sharp Mountain, which, however, is not yet marked on this map, we find the Long Run and Bear Creek marked, as is the Machoning and the Bohundy. Tumbling Run Creek is distinctly marked, on this map, and Mill Creek makes its first appearance; the western most branch of the Schuylkill is marked, we find no trace of the Norwegians, which appear later. Owl Creek makes its appearance in the Tamaqua territory.

In the far west, Long Pine Creek, later the scene of extensive settlements appear. Coal marking is lost in the Mahanoy Valley, but it is marked south of the Broad Mountain.

1811 Map

1811 map is marked by the fact that Orwicksburg is marked on the map. Pottsville is still Potts's. Man-

heim, Pinegrove and Brunswick Townships appear on this map, while farther to the east, later to be taken into the county, we find Penns defined.

Little or no change in the marked residential section appears, but we find Levansburg's on the trail to Catawessy marked, and later to be part of Schuylkill County.

No change in the designation of the streams, but unnamed grist mill markings point to an apparent opening of this busy occupation at later years.

1817 Map

A map made in 1817 by Frank Sanderbrun, according to an act of the legislature, gives the first index to the rapid settlement for some sections of the county, although it is remarkable for fact that no habitation of any consequence is noted in the entire Mahanoy Valley, the St. Clair Valley or the territory west of Pottsville to the present site of Keffer's or thereabouts. South of the Sharp Mountain, habitations line the streams, we have churches, grist mills, saw mills, etc. marked, while north of the Sharp Mountain we find markings of minerals, furnaces and forges. There are over a score of taverns marked on various turnpikes.

The wealth of information contained in the tracings of this map can scarcely be imagined. Almost every name of importance in connection with the early settlement of the region is to be found upon it, while the designations of the rivers, creeks and mountain ranges appear in such a profusion that the first accurate check on the actual location of points of interest is permitted.

Almost severing the county into two distinct parts we find the "King's Highway," the old Sunbury turnpike blazing a trail from one point of interest to another from Port Clinton

Gap to the uttermost confines of the county.

On the Eastern boundary, the trail to Catawissa twines its way, while in the west from Fort Henry to Klingerstown the story of the migration is written. Spreading out like a huge fan, the settlements on this map are shown pushing in every direction into what had hitherto been unknown territory. The Indians by common consent had abandoned Schuylkill County and retreated behind Line Mountain later to make the barrier to any further incursions on their part into the Schuylkill territory.

Three great caravans of settlers can be plainly traced in the markings of the Sauderbrun prints, the oldest along the Swatara, the chief and most important up the Schuylkill and pushing into the Mahanoy region and an extensive, if not just as large a one, pushing along the Little Schuylkill into the Tamaqua territory and stretching towards the Lehigh.

Practically all of the minor streams are filled in by this map maker and these lines in later years were to become exceptionally important in settling controversies as to just where and to whom the various tracts were located and title given.

Coal up to this point had had little or no bearing on the settlement of the county and we find our great mining territories of today still unmarked on the map.

For the purpose of more definitely tracing the settlements of the county at this period and with no regard to the priority of the various habitations, the course of the old Sunbury Turnpike (the King's Highway) is taken as the first definite key to the county layout. Starting at the Junction of the Schuylkill and the Little Schuylkill on the present site of Port Clinton, we find a tavern marked and accredited to Sailor,

The turnpike at this point apparently follows accredited lines because it is marked slightly east of the river and Waggoner's tavern is directly placed on the pike about a quarter of a mile east of Sailor's. Near where the turnpike crosses the Little Schuylkill "Olds Works" designated as a mill is marked to the west, while on the Little Schuylkill, about a half mile to the east of the turnpike, we find Hartman's Grist Mill. The turnpike is vacant for several miles north, where Green's Tavern is marked. It is interesting to note that these tavern markings are small flags, drawn to represent the oldtime tavern signs. A mile north of Green's we find a second Waggoner tavern, while about two miles north of that we find two churches about a mile apart; these are undoubtedly the two churches just below Orwigsburg, because that town, designated as "ORWIGSBURG" for the first time, is on the turnpike, exactly 2 1-2 miles north of the first church. Leaving Orwigsburg and continuing on to a point near where a stream crosses the road, just east of Schuylkill Haven, we find Huebner's Grist Mill, while a little further north the Huebner, Strauch and Reed Taverns are located, all three of them, within a distance of one mile, while the home of Krebs, Esq., is also in this group. North of Reed's, as the turnpike approaches the Schuylkill, we find Dreibelbis' Grist Mill marked and then the turnpike is vacant for two miles until we hit Shoemakers' Tavern, marked directly at the junction of the Tumbling Run road and the Pottsville Pike. Potts' works marks the site of Pottsville.

Coal Deposits Prominently Marked

A mile north of Pottsville, on the pike, coal is designated, on the site of what is now the North American tract leading to Flowery Field. Between this point and what is designated as the Mine Hill Mountain

Range we find the Yohe Tavern, and two miles north of that Necho Allen's Spring is plainly designated; in the vicinity of the Broad Mountain Range and somewhere near the crest we find a Heister or Heisler tavern marked. Down in the Mahanoy Valley, directly across the Little Mahanoy Creek we find Seitzinger's Tavern.

In the western section of the county, directly across the Blue Mountain, we find a group of settlements, along the main branch of the Swatara. This group includes the Hartz (?) Tavern, Seidel's Forge, Seidel's Grist Mill, the home of Conrad, Esq., a church, Barr's Tavern, Albright's Tavern, Rehner's Grist Mill, Strupenhauer's Grist Mill, and another church, the church being located about three-quarters of a mile east of a stream designated as Bear Creek. Several saw mills are marked along this creek with no designation, and the map contains the only reference found to gold, a mine being marked at the gap.

Further up the Swatara we find a creek running between Little Mountain and Stone Ridge with the Brexius Grist Mill and several saw mills marked along its course. Down near its junction with the Swatara, the Heberling Grist Mill is also shown. Four saw mills are designated along a similar stream running between Stone Ridge and the Swatara Mountain. As we proceed up the Swatara we find Huber's Grist Mill about two miles south of the second mountain gap and an unknown saw mill on Black Creek. Coming down to what is designated as the Tulpehocken Gap, the Fetter Tavern is marked on a small stream and up on the Keffer Mountain, and just north of this gap, we find two markings of coal. Getting up into the mountain ranges the Lorberry and North Creek branches of the Swatara are marked. One of the most interesting markings of the en-

tire map is found right in this territory. At what is Joliett, or in close proximity to that site, we find the tavern of the "Widow Ney." So far as the map discloses it was the only habitation for about six to ten miles in any direction, unless two saw mills on Pine Creek in the valley north can be classed as neighbors.

This tavern apparently was on the Sunbury Pike, although the pike is not defined except down through the valley along Keffers and the tavern, apparently, was important as the only stopping place in a long distance. Over in Deep Creek Valley, five to six miles away, the Haffa Tavern was apparently the closest drinking stop, while the Bickel Grist Mill and G. Klinger, Esq. home in the same valley marked the approach to a church located right on the boundary line of the county and about two miles southeast of Klingerstown, the latter town being designated by six houses.

Fine Sand Found At Port Clinton

In the far eastern section of the county, starting at Port Clinton, after leaving the Hartman Tavern, (the location of which is noted above), and was really the jumping off point for trips both up the Schuylkill and Little Schuylkill Valley, we find the first notation "a body of remarkably fine sand." Five miles north of Port Clinton, or thereabouts, we find Beck's Grist Mill, while about two miles north of that we find Brunswick's Forge, which might be a clue to why Brunswick Township was named. Seven saw mills marked the approach to Tamaqua being located just south of Zehner's Grist Mill. Owl Creek is designated as is the Mauch Chunk Mountain but it is given the old Indian spelling of "Machchungk." An Indian field is marked on this map just south of the gap with four more saw mills north of it. To the west, just below the Tuscarora mountain,

within a quarter of a mile of the present site of Tamaqua, we find coal marked, and over the mountain, on the northeastern side of the gap, coal is again marked, as is a salt spring. This is apparently the same mineral spring noted on the earlier maps. Saw mills abound in this territory and continue on up along the Schuylkill above the Broad Mountain, where we find Moyer's Grist Mill added to the list on what is marked as the road to Wilkes-Barre.

It is interesting to note that, despite all of the habitations, etc., along this route, we find no taverns after leaving the Hartman near Port Clinton. This definitely indicates that along this route at least primitive operations were still underway and no road had been marked out, most of the hauling being done by water.

Below the Sharp Mountain and running to the Blue Mountain we find the groups along the main streams as outlined above spreading out and habitations of all sorts are found in the smaller ranges lying in this territory. Hardly a mile of this vast expanse running from the Swatara to the Lehigh is without a habitation or industry of some sort.

Starting at the western section of the county in the valley directly north of the Blue Mountain along the Swatara Creek, we find a profusion of saw mills, most of them located on the Little Streams flowing through the three Gaps in that vicinity.

Five miles east we find Brown's Grist Mill, two saw mills and Shaffer's Grist Mill.

At the point of the fourth gap Wanner's Tavern is marked. Through the gap here we find several saw mills and at the point of entrance to the Blue Mountains, Snider's Tavern. Wanner's Tavern was evidently at the very head of Bear Creek which flowed eastward to the Schuylkill and along this creek about two miles

east of Wanner's, "Rodgers" had a grist mill, while about the same distance further on we find Shade's Tavern and a saw mill, still going eastward we find Kershner's grist mill and a quarter mile south the the Siegfried Tavern.

We find nothing else until we reach the vicinity of Port Clinton and then the habitations continue along the Little Schuylkill, while the valley south of Red Mountain and along Kaups Creek is apparently vacant.

Between six to ten miles east of the Little Schuylkill, in what was then West Penn Township and part of old Northampton County, along Bachart's Run we find Miller's Grist Mill and two saw mills but nothing else until we reach what was termed the Water Gap road across Lizard Creek. Here, we find a whole group of settlements running up into the Tamaqua territory. A saw mill and Ohls Grist Mill, Wher's Tavern and the Langenberger Grist Mill are in close proximity, while farther north we find a Remilly Tavern the Halderman, Esq. home, two saw mills, the Shellhamer Grist Mill and a church defined.

Crossing over the Tamaqua mountain over which a road is marked, we find one saw mill after another along the Mahony Creek and Happes' Tavern. The Halderman Tavern is located about a mile east of Zehner's.

Nothing is marked in the Owl Creek Valley; nothing is marked in the Panther Creek Valley, and the same holds good in the valley of the Nesquehoning Creek, except in the markings of an Indian field, the second marking of this type to be found on the early maps.

Continuing to the head of the Little Schuylkill we find one or two saw mills, but nothing is noted in the Quakake Valley except the designation of the creeks.

Going back to the western section of the county, to the Swatara and again working east along the Swatara and Schuylkill mountains, we find a church on a road between two and three miles east of the junction of the Little Swatara to the main branch.

Nothing further is marked in here until you get over between the Schuylkill Mountains and the Summer Hill Mountain, where you find the Phillips Tavern and the Summer Hill Church entered on the map.

Returning to the territory between Second Mountain and Little Mountain Stein's Mill is marked west of the Swatara, about two miles, while we also find the Fertig homestead marked, just below the Little Mountain, and about midway between the Schuylkill and the Swatara, Heffener's is marked about a mile east of the Fertig home and just south of that Friedensburg makes its first appearance; between Friedensburg and the Dreiblebis Grist Mill noted before, we find the Ernst tavern.

Indian Run and the Panther Creek Valleys show nothing except saw mills.

Koch's Grist Mill A Landmark

Again crossing the Schuylkill, we find beyond Orwigsburg, northeast of the turnpike, the faint tracings of a state road, which is evidently the old road over into the Tumbling Run valley. Koch's grist mill is marked in here as is a forge, evidently on the Bohundy creek. The Rausch Esq. home is also marked, while a little further east we find McKeansburg marked, the Kepner tavern, the home of P. Kepner, Esq. and the Bensinger home.

Along the Beaver Creek, just south of Second Mountain, we find the H. Kepner tavern and a grist mill. A church is also marked in this gap; while up along the Cold Run creek

we find numerous saw mills, Green Field, Louisburg, and a Merkel tavern and a Lutz tavern. just below the Tuscarora mountain. This area is designated as the Devil's Hole, which characterization is still extant. No further markings are found in this area between here and the Tamaqua gap.

The Tumbling Run creek, later to become the site of the head waters of Schuylkill Canal, had no less than eight saw mills marked along it, with the road well defined. It is interesting to note in this respect that crossing Sharp Mountain little or no effort apparently had been made along the Schuylkill Valley to cut through to Tamaqua, a strange feature which also developed later in the hookup of the rail transportation system. East of Pottsville we find something relative to Graeff's partially indecipherable. Zacharias' Run is designated by a saw mill and farther up we have Silver Creek with a saw mill or two, a Stahl grist mill, what is marked as Valley Forge and Valley Furnace and the Kaska William Creek. Several saw mills are noted along the Schuylkill with a Reber grist mill and the Blew tavern about where Tuscarora road hit that valley and the home of Reber, Esq., but apparently the most industrious section was up the Tumbling Run valley.

North of the Broad Mountain and penetrating as far as the Mahanoy Mountain, from the Deep Creek Valley east until you strike the Locust Valley, what is now the great coal mining territory of Schuylkill, is almost a blank.

Taverns Mark Traveled Roads

The Kallman grist mill is the last definite marking on Deep Creek, and then we follow along four miles until we hit the Yoder tavern, and what

appears to be a faint tracing of the present Gordon mountain road. Nothing appears in here between this point and the King's Highway, and nothing is shown in the Mahanoy Valley except four to five miles east of Allen's Spring, where we find the home of F. Hay designated. This home is on another faintly traced road which was evidently the continuance of a road that went up through Valley Furnace directly north, and the Hay house is marked on what is defined as the junction of two of the head waters of Mill Creek. This spot is presumably somewhere in the neighborhood of Morea, and no further habitations are shown until we get to the Stauffer tavern on the old road to Catawissa, about five miles further east. Hay, apparently occupied one of the most isolated habitations in the county and comparable only with the similar position maintained by Widow Ney near Joliett in the West End.

The entire Minersville and St. Clair area is practically vacant, as is the Frackville and Broad Mountain sections. In the St. Clair area, it is interesting to note, however, that about the head waters of the Little Norwegian and just south of the Mine Hill range, the home of J. Muldowney is marked. This apparently is somewhere in the vicinity of Wadesville.

Mill Creek is clearly defined on this map and one and a quarter miles north of its junction, with the Schuylkill, we find the Hughes grist mill marked, while exactly a mile northeast, in the vicinity of what is now the Herbine Colliery we find Reps home, while a mile directly east of that we find the Faust home. These three habitations, if they may be called such, tend to point to habitations in the St. Clair territory

prior to those formerly believed to have been the earlier settlers. The Hughes mill is about on the site of the old St. Clair furnace.

Going to the extreme northwestern section of the county, running from Yarnall's grist mill on the Mahanoy Creek to Klingerstown, we find a fairly definite series of settlements. Along the Mahantongo Valley and in the Deep Creek Valley, we find the home of G. Klinger, Esq., the Bickel grist mill and the Haffa tavern, while north at the junction of the Little Mahantongo and the main Mahantongo Creek we find Henninger's and further along the Little Mahantongo an "oil mill" and Zimmermanstown; farther east Yarnall's grist mill and several saw mills furnish the index to a number of important earlier movements in this territory.

In the Mahantongo Valley a Yoder grist mill marked the almost dead center.

Map Of 1822

Going on five years later we find the state making its first extensive survey in the anthracite region, using most of the data of the "17" map and amplifying it. One of the outstanding changes in this map is the location of the dams of the Schuylkill Navigation Company. Towns began to make their appearance, and we find many more mills, but without the names being furnished.

Between Pottsville and Port Clinton, 13 dams are noted at distances ranging from an eighth to a quarter of a mile; while just north of Pine Creek, and about two and a half miles south of Schuylkill Haven, we find a tunnel designated.

Starting in the western section of the county, Pinegrove makes its appearance again on the map; Friedensburg and Schuylkill Haven, McKean-

sburg are shown in the smaller ranges. Orwigsburg is designated as the county seat. Pottsville is still Potts Works. Reedsburg is marked on the west branch of the Schuylkill, about two and a half miles west of Pottsville. Louisburg and Greenfield just beyond the head waters of Tumbling Run, while east of Tamaqua, Lehigh-ton puts in its appearance. We are still without any definite habitations being marked north of the mountain.

In connection with these two maps, and in relation to the discovery of coal, the coal markings and the location of Allen's Spring furnish an interesting phase of the historical search. The 1817 map as noted before shows coal marked about a mile north of Pottsville, while Allen's Spring is between two and a half and three miles north of Pottsville, and about a mile west of what is now the present Tar Run reservoir.

Allen is supposed to have discovered coal at or near a point within this area, and in this connection it does not seem amiss to indicate that the Allen Spring location is probably the actual point.

Another interesting feature in this respect is that the 1822 map shows a church located on what is either the St. Clair or the Wadesville territory. It is believed, however, this church is the one that stood on the site of the now abandoned borough cemetery at St. Clair. This location shows the church to be west of the Mill Creeks, and slightly east of Norwegian Creek, and the state authorities are insistent that the creek definitions are the ones to be taken as the definite locations, rather than the town or other markings. In this respect it might be well for the reader to take these variations into consideration in consulting the various locations as outlined, because in many instances approximate distances can only be definitely fixed

by calibration of the stream, the old time markings of pine trees, stones and similar markings of boundary lines having long since vanished.

The Map Of 1830

Eight years after the publication of the 1822 map, based on the earlier layout of 1817—the latter map, however, not containing much of the detail of the 1817 map—a map published by H. S. Tanner, of Phila. came into being. This map contained the then outlined townships of Union, Rush, West Penn, Schuylkill, Brunswick, Barry, Norwegian, the Manheims, Upper and Lower Mahantongo and Pinegrove.

In the eastern section of the county in Rush Township, we find Tamanend and Edgeworth marked together with Tamaqua, Tamanend being designated in Neyfors Creek.

The Major Grist Mill is marked on the road to Tamanend, mid-way between that town and Edgeworth. We find B. Moser's place marked at the junction of the Little Schuylkill and Panther Creek.

The Mahanoy and Kittera Tavern, together with that of Knable's Tavern make their appearance on Mahanoy Creek. Mahanoy designates the present site of Mahanoy City.

The Stainer Tavern makes its appearance on the Old Catawissa road, and Heaths is found half way between Middleport and Mahanoy on the old road over the mountain.

In the Schuylkill Valley on this map Tuscarora and Patterson are marked, while Louisburg and Greenfield are found in the Tumbling Run Valley.

Port Carbon makes its appearance on a map for the first time, while Mill Creek is designated by the Indian name of "Coaquenac." St. Clairsville, appears in the Mill Creek Valley and north and east of that town we find New Castle and Ravensdale.

The "Mullowney" home ("Muldorney" on the previous maps) is placed squarely on the site of Wadesville.

The Bailey and the Kauffman Taverns are located above on the "King's Highway," between Pottsville and north of the mountain, while the Dyer Tavern is found at the site of "Allen's Spring."

Pottsville takes its place on this map, under that designation, as does Port Clinton.

Over on the West Branch of the Schuylkill, Minersville is added to the settlements near Reed's, the location of previous maps.

Fox's Valley, a new designation, appears near the site of Stein's Mill. Below Sharp Mountain, Friedensburg remains, while over in the West End along the Swatara, we find Swatara-ville and Pinegrove designated.

1849 Map Shows Coal Industry

The coal industry showed its effects in the map of 1849, 20 years later. This map, prepared by Samuel B. Fisher and P. W. Sheaffer, was replete with detail, and the county settlements were shown to be increasing by leaps and bounds. The coal territory lost its last vestiges of desertion, and homes, taverns, churches, schools, mines and powder mills are marked in profusion. Townships are torn apart and new ones created, and the county, for the first time, takes a definite semblance to its present characteristics.

Over in West Penn, we find new names: D. Kissler, Sawler, J. Happs, grist miller, G. W. Ketstore, tavern, Bohg Grist Mill, Lebie and D. Stein are some of the names found.

Lang (store) Serbal, John Munce, D. Miller, Whitmans, Ziglers, Schwartz (postoffice) D. Baer, J. Rackwa, Tunerz, Rell, Charch, Padua, Clover, Sassemann, G. Kessler, Housler and S. Kepner are designations found

on the map, many of them mills and forges, while others are private homes.

In other sections of the same township, J. Wehr, Carber, Hertzell, J. Mills, Glover, Stitzel and Shelhammer is noted, and in still another group, Loeser, Billman, Miller, Bartleman, Hottinger, Haushner, another Shelhammer, Kultner and the Ritzy Tannery.

Along the road to Lehigh, there was Balliots, J. Adams, the store of S. Wehr, J. Munch, and the D. Garber, saw and grist mill.

On West Creek, we have H. Hoppes, saw and grist mill, Haldermans, John Snyder, Staplers, Langonecher, the latter on Souder's run.

Above the second mountain, in the Owl Creek Valley, there is the Eiler farm, and a powder mill and Shaffers is located on the Little Schuylkill. The Panther Creek Valley is still blank.

Rush Township

Right on the boundary line of Rush Township, there was a powder mill on the Little Schuylkill. On Locust Creek we find marked, James Blew, home, his saw mill, and these names, Anthony Beltz, Lewis Blew, Adam Kline, George Klingerman, the Ellers Tavern, and the Hering saw mill.

A church and school is marked in this vicinity near Klingerman's, and this derivation of Klingerman's school holds good to this day.

Along the Pine Creek there is Kaup's Tavern, another saw mill of James Blew, located on the Hossasock branch, Kramers saw mill, Taggart's saw mill and B. Kramer's and T. Braust. A church known as the "White Church" makes its appearance.

Over the mountain going north, we find Weaver's Tavern on the road to Wilkes-Barre, and the Horn and Zimmerman Taverns on the

boundary line almost in the center position. The T. J. Faust Tavern is located on the road to Sunbury, Shenandoah Creek is noted for the first time, and the Beriey Tavern is found in this section. Mitchells is found north of the Faust Tavern.

Union Township

The Great Tomhicken makes its appearance on the map of Union Township. We find the name of S. Sieugh and a school house is marked on what is now the Nuremberg road.

The Black grist and saw mill and Heislars saw mill, formerly marked, are still designated.

Confers, a new name, and the Snyder saw mill appears on the Catawissa Creek, and on the Catawissa road we find the "Ropes" Tavern. Near the Dark Run Creek on the old Catawissa road, running north from Middleport, we find a church, a school and a store in a group. Kreb's Tavern also makes its appearance.

Bichelsville and a school are marked near the present site of Ringtown, and the Lindemuth school makes its appearance, as does the Lody's grist and saw mill.

South Manheim

The townships are lining up in pairs south of Rush, and Manheim on the border is the next to appear. On a branch of Bear Creek, we have Wenrich's, Sevenck's, Bartlett's, W. Blackwell's, Reickert, Christ's and Castner's.

On one side of the stream, there is a group of dots marked the "Potes" and across the stream the "Jefferson furnace." C. Reber and the Berger's, Fisher's saw mill is noted. In the Bear Creek proper valley, we have Luckenbill, J. Emerick, Benckeuser and W. Swicker.

Over Summer Mountain along Summer Hill Run, the names appearing are those of Stoler, Becker, Da-

walt, W. Say, Salig, Rickert, Swiker and W. Reber. The "Black Mill" has the word sharp beneath it.

Along Wurner's creek which has appeared on the past several maps, the valley had apparently opened up to numerous settlers. Here we find such names as Phillips, Tilder, J. S. Shoener, Rebur, Berickeyser, D. Deibert, Moyer, Hossinger, Wildermuth, Dawalt and Mocker. A school house is also noted in this territory.

North Manheim

Nothing appears in the Long Run valley in this township to the Wayne Twp. line. The Bartlat home is noted on the road leading to "Weigh Scales" now the site of Cressona. The railroad and coal business is having its influence. The Ruch home is found on the western line of the township. Biddle, Jennings, J. Say and Becks appear and along Bear Creek in this township we find the name of Hoffman and the Strauch grist mill.

Across the Schuylkill, the Christ Tavern and the Mayer Tavern flank the first appearance of the "Poor House" on the maps.

Farther east, we find Robt. McAdams, Peale, Lessig, J. Zoll and Peter Smith leading to the designation "Orwigsburg Landing." The canal was making its appearance. The Maurey Mill is noted in this section.

North of Sch. Haven "Waterloo" and Paradise Hollow are marked. Along the road leading to the east, we have Dengler's and a school. Mt. Carbon makes its appearance farther to the north. There are no markings along the Second or Sharp Mountains. The Tumbling Run Dams make their appearance on the map.

East Norwegian

Over the mountain, Palo Alto with the now familiar "Weigh Scales" is on the map. A dam is marked near

Port Carbon and along what is now the lower road we find John Hughes, J. Madison and Gross.

Just below St. Clair, Coaquenac still marks Mill Creek and a Furnace puts in its appearance just below the St. Clair boundary line.

Norwegian Twp.

Circling Pottsville to the northwest, we find Lake's Tavern and the Whittaker cottage marked in this township. A school makes its appearance, as does the O'Connor home. York Farm is marked and the home of C. H. Potts.

On the Minersville road, we find the designation "Hospital, Dr. Knobel" which had a history all its own, J. Jefferson and Berryman. Farther to the north is noticed the "Delaware" farm and still going northward, the words "Oak Hill."

North of Pottsville, "Centreville" is located on the King's Highway and just south of the first designation of "Peach Mountain," the Silzer's tavern puts in its appearance.

East Brunswick Twp.

In the southwestern corner of this township, the Charles and Peter Dreher names appear on the map together with those of John Zahn, Marbeyser, and Seltzer on the West Branch of the little Schuylkill.

In the northeast section of this corner, the "Sussannah forge" is listed and crossing the river and moving eastward the Bolling mill, the Raush School and Weaver's Grist Mill are found in close proximity. About a mile to the northwest, the Lenard and Dedler taverns are marked.

New Ringgold puts in its appearance near the Dreibelbis home as does the B. Yost Tavern, McKeansburg and a church appear and within a radius of about two miles, we find the Pantz, Bensinger, Koch, Kunkalls and Starnolds circling a school.

The Hecla forge, quite prominently marked, is shown on a bend of the river about a mile northwest of New Ringgold. The Jones home or tavern partically indecipherable as to markings is nearby. Near the Koenig Creek on one of the smaller tributaries there is the Lechler's Tavern, and the Leininger Grist and Saw Mill. The old Southern Schuylkill County names are beginning to appear in profusion in this section. Along the Koenig Creek, we find S. and B. Koenig, H. Sassaman, Keeleys and Hoffman's.

Further north on the Wisler Creek, north of the Summer Mountain is Reigel's, Hanzers and two Klecklers.

Schuylkill Township

The brick industry makes its appearance in the Schuylkill Twp. territory. South of the mountain along the river we find G. Hauser's and Heisler's. Then we find a marking of "Bouf's Brickland" and Tamaqua. To the west, Newkirk appears.

West of the river and over the Wildcat Mountains we find "New Germany" on the boundary between Schuylkill and Blythe. T. Shuks, M. Shuks, Widow Seyhan's and Merkles appear in the valley and the Boyer Grist Mill and the Martin Saw Mill are found on the Cold Run Creek.

Along the road, we find Louisburg has become Lewistown with the Koch, Mauer, Boehart and Huntzinger houses listed. A brickyard is again listed and then the Whetstone, Miller and Mitchell homes.

Over the mountain in the Schuylkill Valley, Patterson and Brockville appear and another brickyard is listed.

West Brunswick

Going back to the southern fringe of the map and proceeding Westward we find the Moser, Boyer, and Kinsley families in possession just south of Pine Creek with Kramer occupying a spot on the river. A profusion

of names appear along Pine Creek. They include, Metz, Marburger, Lang, Mock, Foust, Dan, Jacob and William Moyer, and Peter Ludwig. Witzel and Daniel Dreher also come in for markings in this section.

Over the Limestone Mountain, the Kimbal Grist Mill, is discovered; east of Orwigsburg we find Deckert, Shoerne, Zerby, Bickel and Yost names appearing. Along the second mountain, not a habitation is listed.

Blythe Twp.

Below Sharp Mountain in the Tumbling Run Valley, we find the Shooner, Becker, Miler, and Shipe names and the Huntzinger Saw Mill.

Over the mountain in the Schuylkill Valley on the border near Norwegian Twp., Belmont makes its appearance, Hubleyville and New Phila. Valley Furnace is located on the Kaska William Creek and following this stream we find the Silver Creek reservoir marked. A school is located on the road leading along this backwoods territory from Port Carbon to Middleport. Just northwest of Middleport there are the markings "Music Hall" and "Bushey" with settlement legends. What they were, no indication is given.

New Castle Township

Wadesville makes its appearance in the Southwestern section of New Castle Township, with the home of J. Flood marked directly north. The Allen Spring is definitely located on this map at the head of Laurel Run, while Coal Castle is designated on the boundary line.

The Wasser Tavern and the Brewer Tavern are designated on the road from Wadesville to New Castle, the latter being noted for the first time the Brewer Tavern being located at the head of Dyer Run.

Wayne, Branch, Cass and Bntler Townships appear as the next block of townships.

Wayne Twp.

Along the south Branch of the Swatara the saw and grist mill of the Reisser's appear while Warner's is designated two miles east while the Brown saw mill, and Emerich's mark the approach to a school house after which we find the Sheaffer grist and saw mill.

Southeast of Summer Hill we find the names of Lewis, Michael, Weber, and a church at the junction of the road leading over the mountain, together with notations of the Hummel's and D. and J. Schaffer.

North of the Summer Hill Mountain are found the names of H. Burger, J. Bretzler, Castner, W. Reed and Aullenback. A school is located near where the road running from east to west is crossed by three of the side roads and within a narrow radius there are such names as J. Barrier, Joel Yost, Lutz and Homocker. Near the border line of S. Manheim we find A. Hilbert.

Going slightly to the north we find a church about a half a mile in from the Pinegrove border line, just off the road leading over the mountain, and the names of E. Miller, E. Thomas and John Moyer along this road.

Along the Long Run, running from west to east, we come to the Bressnor saw mill, the home of Joe Tehert and Tehert's Mill, also a shop. The Schomocher, Schaffer and Kramer names appear a short distance from Fredensburg. On the road to Sch. Haven we find a school and then the Hummel Tavern and the name of C. Springer.

Over Stone Ridge, along the Swatara, is designated the Yoder mill to the west and then the names of Rayder, Turnuff, Peter Brown, Cand (Mill), the Conrad Saw Mill, the Faust Saw Mill, and the J. Berger and Eiler homes. A grave yard is

marked in the far eastern section near the township line in this valley.

Over the mountain the names of Swartz, A. M. Crosland, Berger, Lehr, Haberacher, and Fisler appear on the road to Cressona, while way up north in the mountain itself the designation "Barrierbake" is found.

Branch Twp.

Below the mountain along the Swatara in this township, the name of Miller and J. Adams is found together with the settlement of Silverton. Heywood's saw mill is designated as is the settlement of West West and the name of Fogarty appears near Westwood.

Over the mountain on the Middle Creek, we find the Wolf Saw Mill, Zerbie, near the headquarters of the creek, and also the Tobias Tavern and a school.

Along the mountain, we find nothing. On the Muddy Branch, appears the name of F. McDonald and the designation of Branchdale. Just south of the Cass Twp. line, there is a church. The names of J. Klauser and J. Klauser appears as does Llewellyn. Nothing is found on the present Minersville-Llewellyn road.

Swatara falls is marked and at the top of the Muddy Branch is the P. Menck Saw Mill. A school is also located here and there is the name of R. Heckscher. Directly to the east is the designation of "Costerville." Northeast is located Forestville with the names of Britton, Miller, F. Morris, T. Petherick and W. Petherick, while Primrose also appears. On the mountain, "Servill's Tower" is marked.

In the Mine Hill and Peaked Mountain area, we find Meckesburg, Heckscherville and Coal Castle in succession. Along the Dyer Run the space is blank.

Butler Twp.

Over the Broad Mountain we find the name of A. Wilson on the Little Mahanoy almost in the dead center of this township. The Stevenson saw mill and the Wilson mill appears. North of the creek in the valley of one of the smaller tributaries we find the name of Powel southwest of Ashland. Southeast of Ashland which appears on this map, Dillman's and Brewer are the names that appear while Fountain Springs post office makes its appearance.

Pinegrove Twp.

Reverting to the southern section of the county once more, the Pinegrove section is found thickly populated.

Just over the edge of the Blue Mountains, are the names of Eckler, Hoover, P. Hoover and Zimmerman on a cut off of the road to Harrisburg. At one of the junctions, is the J. Koons sawmill and the name of Ramsey, imprinted on the road marked as the road to Millersburg.

Port Mifflin makes its appearance at the Junction of the Swatara and Fishing Creek. Up Fishing Creek near the township line we find the Eckert furnace, a school and a grist mill.

Names that appear are H. Mome, Meiser, Trohan, J. Baney, D. Felty, Kingerman, D. Felty, again, Beckler, P. Jacob and J. Stein and John Stein. all scattered in the little valleys.

Following along the Swatara, such names as Filbert, Meisse, H. Reed, H. Seitzinger, Bowen, J. Adams, Adam Minick, Peter Roher, Lefler and Stahl appear west of Pinegrove. A church and a school also are shown here.

Up the Rausch Creek, numerous unnamed mills are found. Miller's and a school, then the names of Deerfield, Clemens, Woller and Zerby are located just west of the creek.

On the Eastern shore, we find Seitzuhn, Becker Grist Mill, Greenawalt Saw Mill, Hanewitz and Hertzog. Out along the Swatara the

Eveling and Bergen, Grist and Saw Mills appear.

Just north, we find Reed's, to the east Zerby's (purchased by late Joseph Henry Zerbey, and rebuilt into "Far-a-Way" country home), and then Boyer's at the township boundary line to the east.

Tremont Twp.

In this township up near the head of Fishing Creek we find the Paint Spring designated. Near here is the Hause home, then Baird's run, the "House" and later Haas Spring. Within a space of less than a mile, we thus find three different definitions of "Haas".

A school is located on the Lorberry Creek, T. Christ has a grist mill here and Kimmel's is located on the road designated as running from Tremont to Wiconisco.

South of Red Mountain, there is March's and Fisher's saw mill, on the Black Creek. Tremont is marked as are the names of L. Spang and Calls just northwest of the town.

Frailey Twp.

This township is sparsely marked. Kimmel's tavern appears in the southwest corner, as does the Kimmel Home. Down in the Southeast corner we find the name of Zerby again, on the Middle Creek, almost on the township line.

Barry Twp.

Barry Township on this map brings the Sherman Tavern, probably the reason for the Sherman mountain designation, appearing. A school is found on the "Hanyost Creek" as is the Snyder saw mill.

Up in the northeast over the mountain on a tributary of the Mahanoy is the name F. Dengler. Taylorsville (Barry Post Office) makes its appearance just west of Yarnall's Saw Mill.

In this section, is the name of J. Hubler and J. Stitzer, while in the southeast Weaver, Burger and J. Gerl are some of the names found

Otto's Forge is prominently marked as is a grist mill both located on Mahanoy Creek.

Porter Twp.

Porter Township begins to assume more than ordinary importance. On the road to Wiconisco, near the boundary line are found the Shambert and the Hertz saw mill on the Wiconisco creek. What is designated as a "steam Brushblock factory" is marked. The Seely saw mill also appears.

The Bear Mountain settlement is designated on the road west of the Raush Gap while to the east we find the name of T. Heberling, in the William's Valley. Miller's shop, another Heberling, Albert Smith, are other names that appear. The Ney tavern, one of the earliest of the county designation's, is found almost on the border line in the northeast, definitely located on the road leading down into the Mahantongo Valley, near the headwaters of the E. Branch of Pine Creek.

Lower Mahantongo

Getting into the Mahantongo territory, we find a church, far to the west on the road to Klingerstown. Kauffman's store, and a school house are marked near the junction of Deep and Pine Creek. The Weist tavern, a store and what is designated as Lower Mahantongo Post Office appear west of the Rausch Creek confluence with Pine Creek. Farther east, is located the Ossman tavern and then a church on the road just north of the Stahlman Grist Mill. Still going east, are discovered the names of T. Bressler, Dinger, Stutzman (sawmill) and Haberacker (near the boundary line on the road to Donaldson).

An unknown store is marked just north of this point together with a saw mill near Deep Creek.

Upper Mahantongo

Klingerstown in the extreme northwest and a grist mill in the north-

east are the sole markings in this township.

Eldred Twp.

The county is completed with Zimmermanstown on the northern boundary. An unmarked tavern appears on the southeast border line.

Pottsville

A graph of Pottsville appears on this map with Guinea Hill to the northwest, Lawton's Hill and Young's prominently marked. Among special markings on the street designations we find the notations of Town Hall, Exchange, M. E. Church, Heywood Foundry, Jenkin's Screen manufactory, F. J. Derr's Foundry, Mason and Spence, Second M. E. Church, Potts House, White Horse, Pennsylvania Hall, Episcopal Church, American House, Mt. Laurel Cemetery, Catholic Church, Silver Terrace, York Store, Market House, Friend's Meeting House and the Miner's Bank. The locations are made by the use of the letters of the alphabet with a special legend to identify the markings.

Map Of 1863

In endeavoring to present a picture of the growth of Schuylkill county through the markings on the maps of the various years, the J. H. Zerbey Newspapers were fortunate in securing a map of 1863 published by James D. Scott of Phila., and made from surveys by Walter Scott and W. J. Cox.

This map which furnished a new vista of the county's growth was found by Michael Chylack of St. Clair in the attic of a property purchased by his father, John Chylack, and the "Republican" and "Morning Paper" were apprised of its existence by Peter McCloskey, New Castle. Through the aid of Mr. McCloskey, the map was loaned to the newspapers for use in its history. Neither the State nor the local Historical society is in possession of a copy and because of its rarity photographs of the map were taken by the Department of Internal

Affairs and are now in the archives of that department. The map fills in a gap extending from the Mexican to the Civil War period and is replete with detail regarding county changes after the publication of the 1849 map.

Warren J. Daniel of the Department of Internal Affairs and Spencer H. Seighman, the photostat deputy of the department succeeded in getting fine copies of the map despite its age.

West Penn Township

West Penn Township on this map shows an extensive growth chiefly along the three main highways paralleling the main creeks of that section. Along the Lizard Creek already becoming one of the chief communicating routes of the eastern section of the county we find Kepner's hotel and a store in the southwest corner together with a school, and then a group of residences marked with the names of D. Daubenspeck, W. Seigler, Hauser, D. Bear, H. Bliler, J. Bear, Yarheimer, H. J. Halderman, D. Miller, N. Bear, H. Hartranft, J. Say, J. Whetstone, J. Giltner, J. Bolig, F. A. Knapp, J. Lorah, D. Kistler, A. Harper, D. Steigerwalt and the John J. Rubright store.

On the highway crossing the township almost in the center were found the names of the following:—F. Fisher, J. Reinhart, J. S. Shelheimer, G. Oswalt, J. Shelheimer, J. Sassaman, D. Miller, Baylers, G. Beish, J. Kistler, H. Houser, Mrs. Kemp, M. Seigfried, J. Rarig, J. Levick, S. Snyder, N. Knapp, D. Miller, R. Rarick, Hilamer, Zigler, Gilbert, N. Hauscher, N. Steigerwalt.

A tannery is marked along this road as is a Lutheran church, the church being located almost in the exact center of the township.

On the Schuylkill river in the northwest corner of the township we find the Maize homestead but no settlements along the Saunder Creek.

On the road running along the Mahoney Creek, we find the names of

D. Longnecker, the Union Hotel, (P. Seiberling Prop.) Drovers Hotel, an unidentified Shoe Store, Bittman, D. Miller, C. Kepner, D. Miller, L. Betz, and J. Miller.

The name of C. S. Fredirici appears in this territory as do the following, Schaeffer, P. Rinard, D. Hexar, D. Garber, Montz, Milton, C. Adams, N. Billeatt, L. Billeatt, J. Billeatt and C. Billeatt.

Northeast from the Hexar home noted above along a tributary of the Mahoney Creek we find the names of Garner, Zehner, Hester, D. Reed, A. Vehr, J. Hobb and R. Miller. A church and a saw mill is also noted here.

Rahn Township

Nothing appears in the Owl Creek Valley except down in the southwest corner we find the home of Mrs. Maize, while over on the southeast corner, near the head of Owl Creek, there is the home of J. Folk. Tamaqua, on the Schuylkill, makes a fair sized indentation on the outline. Just north of that are two mills unidentified. Homes are absent but there are notations of a number of extensive land owners including John Kunkle, John Beotel, Michael Mehring, Philip Moser, Dunn, Winders and Hiecks drawn in on the map.

Rush Township

Going north to Rush, three settlements are marked. Barnesville is located on the Hossasock Creek at the confluence with Pine Creek.

Near the head waters of the Little Schuylkill we find Gearhartville, the markings of eight homes, a store and a hotel. Up in the northwestern corner, almost on the boundary line, a little to the north of the road to Catawissa, Girard Manor makes its appearance. There are few individual markings on this map, one of the prominent ones being that of John Depui, (which is apparently Depew), as a landowner just east of the border line.

Other line owners marked in this map are Susannah Manes, Dewalt Drash, Lewis, S. Shoemaker, Lewis Rush, Clara Neis, "Hometown" being designated at this point. David Neis, Philip Henry Diehl, John Reuier, R. Willing, Jos. Morris, Richard Willing and M. Willing along the lower tier. Paul Hannah, Thos. Hannah. Thos. Palmer, Geo. Miller, Thos. Christ, John Branse, Michael Bushey, N. Bowen, H. Moyer, Geo. Reber, J. Pressinger, C. Etting, H. Briggs, Wm. Dewast. F. Roman, J. Lyon, Kennedy, B. Epley, Leonard Epley and L. Robbins controlled the southeast and middle section. Across the north, we find Robert John, John Palmer, David Taggart, J. Peirsoll, M. Peirsoll, Paul Baulty, Andrew Grove, Martin Diehl, G. Medlar, W. A. Linder, H. Stauffer, Geo. Ashton, Wm. Wistar, Francis Nichols, Wm. McPherson, W. Beatty, S. Beatty, J. Donaldson, A. Gibson, A. Tolan, J. Fries, Isaac Stauffer, Daniel Keriker, J. Dreher, T. Lewis, A. Bowen, J. Kunkel, Venus Lewis, the last named group occupying the south and northern sections of the Spring Mountain.

Union Township

Union Township showed an extensive growth but Ringtown was the only large settlement even in the Civil War period. Within this area is a school house just north of Ringtown, about a mile, and another one about two miles east. A church is marked midway between the school and town and we find a tan yard to the west. Along the Mahanoy Mountain, on the southern slope we find Geo. Beckhun, Peter Benson, John Berron, Jr., and Andrew Kennedy taking over the title while on the northern slope, Isaac Norris and Thos. P. Cope are the extensive landowners. In the farming territory over in the southwest corner, we find the following names: Detwiler, P.

Horn, J. Brie, J. Seltzer, W. Seltzer, Longenberger, G. Bodey, J. Mauer, D. Rumbel. At the headwaters of the Catawissa, just west of Ringtown, saw mills and found in profusion.

Along "Crooked Creek" there was a Van Dusen sawmill and the S. Miller, D. Roerig, D. Foose, and L. Davis sawmills. The Roerig name also gave title to a railroad station. Near the school noted before, we find the home of W. McCorkle while there are a number of Briesches' residing in the territory, together with J. Sweeney and J. Stauffer. Over the mountain from Ringtown in the valley above the Catawissa Creek, towards the Tomhicken, there was an extensive settlement with a school house located in the center and along the road leading from the old turnpike into Catawissa a church is found just south of Buck Mt.

The two Van Dusens, W. Davis, J. Roerick, D. Roerig, J. Johnson, T. Ryan, T. Phine, H. Rapp are among the settlers noted. East of Ringtown and extending over to the county line are some twenty-five or thirty families, including such names as Krebs, Bankes, Dribelbies, Fenstermacher and Monbeck. Krebs' store is located in the midst of this group and we find Zimmerman's, Housser's, Swenk, Lockhart, Miller, B. Housser, Williams, another Bankes, two Bidders, the Brandon Hotel, (later Brandonville), G. Derr, D. Haines, Davis Haines, Jos. Evans, E. Loro, T. Davidson, P. Swartz, R. Beatty, C. Cochran, and J. Chapman, the latter on the border line.

East Brunswick

Going back to the southern fringe of the county into East Brunswick, and up the Little Schuylkill, we find Drehersville, New Ringgold, and Hecla. Farther to the west, McKeansburg is definitely outlined. Most of the old families are still

noted on this map with few, if any, changes. A school is marked on the river about three miles up, in the vicinity of the J. Rausch home, while a little further onward we find a tannery, a forge and the mill of J. Beck.

Schuylkill Twp.

Schuylkill, like East Brunswick in 1863 showed little change in its complexion, below the coal mesaures. Centreville appears on the Little Schuylkill. Farther up the river, near the junction of the old turnpike with the road into Tamaqua, we find a settlement marked as New England. Two hotels are marked at Lewistown and about a mile below, a Lutheran Church is noted. Between this church and New England there was one school, a mile or more east of the church, and another one about a mile east of where the road cuts down to Tuscarora almost on the site of the brickyard noted on the previous map. Jumping across Sharp Mt., we find in addition to Patterson and Tuscarora, Buckville and Newkirk with the individual property owners giving way to the owners of larger tracts. We find the Patterson tract. Quildin, Francis B. Nichols to the far west. then we find A. Bowen, Christian Shell, Chas. E. Smith, Geo. Hoffman, Alice Brown, S. Wetherill, G. Reber, Timothy Lewis, W. Chancellor, Aaron Bowen, Jos. Clark and John Wood extending to Tamaqua.

West Brunswick

Port Clinton is definitely outlined as a town in West Brunswick and up along the Schuylkill Canal definitely marked, we have Auburn while Orwigsburg is also sketched out. Scores of names of settlers appear. many of them those of families whose names appear on the map from the earliest notations. We have a school house just west of Auburn and another about two

miles north while almost up on the township line in the vicinity of Landingville, we find Deibert's boat yard. Another school looms about a mile northeast, right on the boundary line on the road leading from Dreher'sville to Sch. Haven, just south of Orwigsburg. On the road leading from Auburn to Orwigsburg and cutting the township almost in half, we find another school house with a tannery up along Pine Creek and also the H. Moser hotel, and the D. Faust mill. A powder mill is located just beyond Orwigsburg on the road to McKeansburg while up in the northeast corner we find a hotel of J. Moyer. For the first time on any of the maps, a mile north of Orwigsburg on the road running to a road passing through North Manheim to Tumbling Run we find a "distillery".

Blythe Township

Blythe shows no changes in the Tumbling Run Valley of any consequence but, over the mountain, Cum-bola makes it appearance but it is spelled "Gumbola." New Phila. is sketched in, as is Middleport. The early settlers have given away to landowners, including the names of Geo. Wentworth, Wm. Kinnear, Adam Stahl, J. Stahl, G. Reber, W. Weisse, M. Davis and R. Davis, Daniel Kerber, Casper Singer, M. Fritz, Rauch, Long, Seller, Haller, Seltzer, Folk, Miller, Runyon, Catherine Davis, Elizabeth Davis, Brady, Lauderbrun, C. F. Mann, Keim, Miller, Nachbor, Jane Cochran, Yost and Metz. At the present site of Kaska William, we find the store of P. D. Luther.

Mahanoy Township

New Boston appears in Mahanoy Township, in the western section; Hossasock is almost on the border line on the east; Mahanoy City is slightly off the center, and over in the west center, Frackville makes its appearance. Shenandoah is defin-

itely outlined, and the smaller land owners are pushed out of the Catawissa Valley. Tier after tier of extensive land owners make their appearance. Along the upper Mill Creek, the mountain territory is marked out for Christian Keister, W. Jackson, John S. Ruhle, Samuel Ely, John Cole, L. Haring, R. Dickinson, Tom Davis, John Zane, M. Keely and Sara Zane are marked as the owners of the entire tract running from the headwaters of Locust Creek over to Rush Township.

Charles Shoemaker is listed as the title holder of what apparently was part of the valley between Tuscarora and the Locust Creek. East of New Boston, Andrew Lyttle, Christopher Dimm, Nellie Davis, Aaron Bowen, M. Bowen and Venus Lewis held the titles. A small settlement labeled "Springfield" at the headwaters of the Hossasock Creek is marked here. This is about the site of the present Mahanoy Tunnel. Between Mahanoy City and Shenandoah, almost a score of coal company combinations make their appearance, while just north of Shenandoah "Coxe's estate" is listed as the chief owners of Girard land, with also the designation of the Girard heirs. Edw. Lynch, Jas. Howell, Jas. McNeal, Jeremiah Jackson, Wm. Steadman, D. Brobst, Robt. Irwin, John Barber, Alex Rohrson, Herman and Peter Beatty, J. Haines, Nathaniel Brown, Robt. White, G. McCandles, and the Beatties control the tract between the Coxe holdings and township line.

South Manheim

In South Manheim, Auburn is sketched out on this map with prominent markings being given Haywood's Furnace.

Down along Beaver Run, there is little change in the names of the inhabitants. Saw mills, grist mills seemed to abound. We find a school

and a C. Albright saw mill, and Reber's Hotel located about two miles west of Auburn, on the road leading along Bear Creek. Quite a settlement of Rebers and Bergers have made their appearance in this section, over a dozen families.

Augé Station (Auchey's of later years) appears almost on the border line of Wayne Twp.

Lying north, over the mountain, in the dead center of the valley, we find almost the same type of a settlement as above with a school house, home of Dr. R. Shannah and a Union Hotel, marking the almost center of the map. Going over the next mountain we find a similar condition, with another school house, Reber's, Paxson, Dewald's and the Deibert's making their appearance.

North Manheim

This township shows a big change in contour.

We find the influence of the Schuylkill Canal, three boat yards, being marked, Adams, Fidler and Lefler, while the Allspack powder mill and home lies just off the boundary line of Orwigsburg and purchased by the late Joseph Henry Zerbey, many years ago.

Between Landingville, located on the river, and Schuylkill Haven, we find M. J. Saylor's boat yard and a group of houses marked with the names of Boyer, Booen and Butts. A school is mid-way between Orwigsburg and Schuylkill Haven, just west of J. Lessig's Hotel, and between that point and the Almshouse.

Along the turnpike, just north of Schuylkill Haven, we find a big block of docks, lime kilns, three families of Becks, J. Beck's mill, just west of the river and north of Cressona. The latter is sketched out.

Along the pike we find Huy, J. T. Mayer, a school, Seven Stars Hotel, B. Kline, two canal locks, Briton's

and Gray's, Bumgarten, McElermot, from Schuylkill Haven north.

At Mt. Carbon, J. M. Crosland's home is noted, and in what is known as East Mt. Carbon today, Miss M. Walker's. The Mansion House is given a prominent marking. No further notations are found on the pike between this point and Pottsville, but directly west of Mt. Carbon, just south of Sharp Mountain, we find another school house located, together with the names of Shannan, Biddle, Wagner, Fryler, Bittle and Mardis and what also looks like an Allison.

In the northwestern section we find the names of Beck's Hotel, Biddle's, Raibert, Motts, Payne, Nagle's Mill, Lenig, Seymore, surrounding Cressona. An Episcopal church is entered at Cressona.

East Norwegian

The coal business has had a marked effect upon the complexion of this township. Palo Alto and Port Carbon have taken a huge chunk out, and in the northwest, St. Clair has done a similar act. All of the old individual markings are gone, giving a hint as to what is to follow in later maps, once the towns begin to make their appearance.

New Castle

Centre Turnpike is practically the only old time designation that remains; Allen's Spring has gone, and we find Walier's Tavern at about this spot, with the Broad Mountain House farther north. Henry Gettle and P. Wagner are given as the title owners of the lower section, together with the Reppliers. Further north are Jas. Lang, the Artillas, Bailey and two Graeffs, while Chas. and Nancy Cherry own the northeast group.

Seitzinger, Whetherell and Keim apparently held title to the major part of this township.

Butler

Going over the mountain, the coal lands have once more wiped out the early names.

Along the Mahanoy Valley, Girardville, Foulkton and Ashland is marked, while Gordon makes its appearance to the southwest.

Jacob and Maria Kleckner are lease holders in the southwest, with Philip Meyer, Sophia Meyer, Daniel Will, Killian May, Andrew Herwick along the southeastern tier.

Along the Little Mahanoy Creek, running from west to east, we discover D. and J. McKnight, John Kunkle, P. Seitzinger, Evan Hughes, S. Hughes, Godfried Lehman and Richard Stevens as the owners.

Between Gordon and Ashland, Mary Kunkle and B. Pott are listed.

In the Fountain Springs territory, there is a hotel and a tannery, together with the names of R. C. Wilson, J. Engle, P. Seitzinger.

From Locust Dale in the northwest corner, to Girardville, the big land owners have taken over. We find C. Potts and Company, Wm. Martin, Thos. Grant, J. Davidson, Deborah Grant, Bast and Pierson, Wrad and Heaton, John Alexander and Jas. Chapman, the owners, and just south of Girardville, Daniel Reese, Samuel Reese and Thos. Grant own the ground.

Wayne

Turning to the bottom of the county, in Wayne Township, Miller's Hotel, Shaubel's Hotel and Emerich's mark the approach to Summit Station and the Summit Hotel.

The majority of the old names remain. Sheaffer's saw mill is marked to the west of Moyer's Station. There is a school to the east of Summit, along the Bear Creek road.

Going over the mountain along the Swatara, we find quite a settlement of Browns almost on the boundary line, together with Nagle, Fessler, Moyer, Bressler, Reber, Lutz, Machamer, Yerger, Krammes, Icher and Seller along the highway. The Ferabees later prominent in the St. Clair territory, appear on this map, over towards the Washington Twp. line.

Along the valley into Friedensburg, most of the old time names remain. Witman Hotel and Hummel's Hotel are marked at Friedensburg, as is the St. John Church.

On the two roads north of Friedensburg, running across the township, there are found traces of the old time mills, and most of the old time names. Riland, Hummel, Young, Moyer, Berger, Dieter, Berkelboch, Wommer, Eiler, Hughes, Fessler, Moyer, Fertig are some of the names that appear.

A school is marked on the road from Cressona to Pinegrove, just south of the Fertig home; while another is marked about three miles south on the road between Schuylkill Haven and Friedensburg.

We find another school about three miles west of Summit Station, and another one west of Friedensburg, completing the group in that township.

Branch

Crossing the mountain into Branch Twp. it is evident that the Indian Run Valley has been taken over by the larger lessees Charles Evans, John Spayd, C. Feger and Wm. Cole.

Farther north, B. Pott, John Relier, J. Ewing, G. Zerbe and H. Heiser have taken over the land along the west branch.

Above Silverton, we find George Rahn, J. Cresson and Wm. Davis controlling the tracts almost to Llewellyn.

Cressonville is marked about a mile northeast of Silverton.

In the Llewellyn-Minersville section, Hay and Lightfoot, Reynolds and Lewis control all of the ground, while to the west of Llewellyn, Taylors, E. Branham, D. Dillman, Reynolds, Faust, Frill, Jenks and "Umbe-hauer and Luiday" are given as the owners of the major tracts.

Rickert owns one tract between Branch and Cass in the northeastern corner.

Norwegian

Pottsville and Yorkville, the latter a separate borough, together with parts of Palo Alto and Port Carbon, almost wipe out the eastern section of this old township. A group of larger land owners, working a series of collieries, have taken over the balance of the ground.

We find E. O. Conner and Montgomery homes marked along the York Farm tract. Cooper, Carey, Yuengling, Duncan, Haupt, Lewis, Thuron, Seitzinger, Bullock, Price and Whetherill and Wm. Weterill and the Spohns are marked as the warrantees in this section.

Cass

Forestville, Black Heath, Heckscherville are the main settlements marked, while along the West-East Branch the Primrose Hotel is noted.

Running across the township from west to east, such owners are discovered as Geo. Miller, Andrew Lytle, Coates, Kear, Willets, Dorothea Jones, Williamson.

Around Forestville and running above Black Heath, we find Rose, Labenberg, Freeman and Lippincotts. Labenberg again makes his appearance, together with Henry Gettle, between Glen Carbon and Heckscherville.

Labenberg and Miller, Eberhart, Matthew Little, Hertzell, Hertwig

and the Artillas control the rest of Cass Twp.

Washington

In Washington Township, along the road running from the Swatara to the Berks Co. line, is found the designation "Cherry Tree." Along the road, running from Pinegrove to Moyer's Station, is Batdorf, Schneck, Morton, Heimbach, Owens, a school, Benningham, Kramer, Keim, Kermer, Brown, Trumlo, added to the older list of names. An Evangelical Church and Wagner's saw mill, together with the White Horse Hotel are marked in the region covered by the Swatara Valley and this road.

Proceeding north we find few changes, the name of B. Zervis appearing just south of the road running from Pinegrove into Wayne Twp.

Along the Little Swatara and the highway south of that, the Sut-zinger, Richard and Powell names are discovered, together with a school, a store and a hotel at the junction of the road running south.

DeTurk, Langel, Batdorf, Mrs. Yerger, Eicher, Goldman, Schrapp, Moyer, Parten and Mrs. Lee are some of the designations.

In the northwest section, on the Pinegrove line, north and south of the Swatara, we find the names of Kingle, D. Zerby, S. Schwartz, D. Somer, P. Kramer, D. Stump, C. Mowry, J. Haring, J. Bord, another Zerby, M. Reed, D. Mullen, J. Conrad, G. Moyer, R. Wartluft, D. Luckenbill, W. Kramer, P. Fenstermacher and S. Riland.

East and west, across the township, just south of Second Mountain, in the northeast corner, five families are located, J. Brown, D. Brown, J. Morgan, A. Haycock and Mrs. Reed.

Reilly

Here again are found a series of big land owners; five tracts are

credited below the South Mountain to John Kidd, A. Bower, John Spyker, P. Miller and John Otter; while over the mountain, Adam Zerly, James Dundas, Michael Gunkle, Allen, T. Sillyman control the ground south of Panther Creek.

E. Branham, Greenwalt, Schall and Lauderburn are in the territory south of the Red Mountain, with Dundas, Christ, Deshong, and F. Kleckner in the southeast corner.

Swatara is designated southwest of Branchdale, with Roberts, Clymers, Pealock, Martin Horn and Jacob Miller listed as the land owners. Boyer and Bergers owned north of Branchdale, while on the mountains, towards Foster, the lands are credited to Melchoir Hoffa, Daniel Hartman, John Fry, E. Wildbahn, Otto and C. Rose.

Foster

Foster Township is taken over along the southern tier by Runyon, Frailey, Hertzell, Thiell, May, the Artillas, Schall and Groh. Above them we find Thiell, May, Henry Shaffer, M. I. Seibert, John Klinger, Philip Myer, Susannah Sillyman, A. M. Shomo and Sophia Myer.

Monterey, about two miles northwest of Glen Carbon, adjoining a tract credited to Charles Reed is sketched in as a settlement.

Barry

The Hanyost and Deep Creeks continue to be the basis of the settlement in this township. We find the names of Williams, Morgan, Bittman, Klinger, Geist, Hoch, Kramer, Swinehart, Wetzel, Murdine, Kester, Weikle, Yoder, Snyder, Slaterbeck, Wedan, McSully, Kimball, Bolich, Weaver, Stalefield, Yarnell, and Thompson among those scattered about the valley.

Taylorsville continues to be the chief settlement, and we find a

school on Hanyost Creek, a church on the road into the Hegins Valley, and a school on this same road. Two schools are listed in the vicinity of Taylorsville. The Mosley and Billman taverns are found on the old road into Sunbury.

Pinegrove

As before, the Swatara and Fishing Creek furnish the chief basis of settlements, although we find quite a group along the road leading from Pinegrove to what is designated as Elwood in the northwestern corner. Most of the old time names remain, and we still find the mills marked along the stream.

Pinegrove is definitely outlined, credited with several hotels, a railroad station, and a couple of churches.

Fort Mifflin Hotel is prominently designated where the Swatara nears the county line.

We find a school house on Fishing Creek, and two schools below Swope's Mountain, about a mile apart; while west of Pinegrove, along the Swatara, we find a Lutheran church.

About four miles northwest of Pinegrove we find another school, where there is one also marked near the Greenawalt mill directly north of Pinegrove on the road to Tremont.

Below Swope's Mountain we find the names of Eckler, Huber, Knapp, Klick, Lehman, Keeny, Zimmerman, Heinbach, Schneck, Gauby, Porter, Firme, Dothaman, Sigfried, Daubert, Keffers, Mayberry, Batdorf, Trumbower and Salzen.

Along the Swatara from Fort Mifflin, we find Snyder, Clower, Felty, Strovenhove, Stahl, Deifenhach, Zimmerman, Rager, Smeltzer, Gensaman, Rohrer, Mayes, Bucher, Grillabower, Hepler, Wenger.

From Elwood into Pinegrove we find Dr. Eckert, Brown, Reed and

Felty, Schnecks and Steins, and Zuby and Harvey.

On the Tremont road we find Smith, Barr, Christ, Hicks, Mayes, Shropes, Zimmerman and up near the boundary line Miller's Hotel.

East of the Swatara in the northeastern section of the county, we find the Greenawalts, Heberling, S. Zerly, Zimmerman, Hertzog and Huber.

Tremont Township

Except for the continuance of the markings of several of the creeks, practically all of the old time imprints are gone, and the land is taken over by a new list of owners.

Above the second mountain, running from west to east, we find the list includes: Philip Weber, S. Reigle, Daniel Reigle, Michael Reese, Christ Lavenber, J. Sillyman, P. Filbert, J. Heisler, John Kidd.

Along the Sharp Mountain we find John and P. Himmelberger, John P. Leshner and John Miller, John Harris, John Schall and Schall and Bannan. George A. Zerly owned a tract directly to the north of the last named company.

Along Fourth Mountain we find the holdings of J. Miller, John Scharff, Catherine Knoll, Hubler, J. Knoll, M. Breininger, John Dreher, Nancy Kinnear, Robert Lyon, William Montgomery, Andrew Corson. Tremont was the only big settlement.

Frailey Township

Passing north into Frailey Township, Donaldson City is the only marking of prominence. S. Leininger, John Meyer, J. Walker, J. Miller, J. Cook, W. Cook, George Weed, Elijah Weed, Robert Irwin and Martin Horn are classed as the chief land owners.

Hegins Township

Along the mountain from Bear Mountain in the west to the eastern fringe we find the slope land marked

off in big blocks and credited to the following: John Lengel, C. Lengel, George Dewald, B. Messersmith, John Burkhard, William Schoener, Thomas Wildbahn, George Eckert, Michael Madara, Philip Miller, John Kendle.

In the valley along Pine Creek we find H. Hollebach's grist mill, Young, J. Driver, S. Kocher, W. Schadel, E. Shucker, J. Reed, E. Ossman, W. Bresler, M. Councilman, D. Minnich, M. Bressler, I. Shucker, G. Zerbe, G. Mowry, I. Schadle, J. Crone, J. Dietrich and Haberacker.

Valley View is designated on this map as "Germantown," situated along the highway running through the center of the valley, and about a mile and a half northeast of A. Schwenk's tavern. Along this road we find the names of G. Schwalm, G. Moyer, H. Miller, E. Artz, S. Dietrich, A. Kohns in the western section, then a church, Hoover, Fegley's tavern, and the names Sullivan, C. Schriver, T. Stutzman, S. Dichler, D. Ressler, M. Dungleburger, J. Halde-man, Fidler, J. Zerbe, D. Landen-slager, G. Mowry and J. Reed mark the approach to Hegins Post Office, where we find Renn's tavern, W. Fidler, W. Otto, P. Osman, I. Bressler, S. Otto, S. Bressler and what is designated as the Otto Tanyard along the same road. Eastward we find J. Shay, J. Ware, D. Bressler, G. Deng-er, a school house, six Stutzman fam-ilies, J. Swab and S. Mowry.

Over the Little Mountain along Deep Creek we find Schroepe's grist mill on the main branch, and then P. Mowry, D. Bichler on one of the tributaries, while about a mile and a half east, on another tributary, we find S. Shade, G. Huntzinger, G. Kessler and A. Schwartz. About a mile north of Schwartz's, on a road leading up through the Mahantongo Valley, we find a Shuey and Greble. Mid-way between these two tribu-

taries, on the road leading to Kling-erstown, we find a school house marked. Dungleburger's grist mill is found on Deep Creek, directly north of Hegins, while near the head waters of the creek we find six settlements of Kesler, T. Mowry, B. Andrew, M. Wolfgang, D. Eyster, E. Boyer and J. Osman.

Eldred Township

Going north over the Mahantongo Mountains into Eldred Township, we find a long list of settlements run-ning almost to the eastern boundary line, and bordered by the mountain range. Two roads run right around this circle, with the Big Mahantongo and the Little Mahantongo furnish-ing the water for the various indus-tries. We find the names Hepler, Wolfgang, Brunsins, D. Matten, D. Chambers, Mowry, Kesslers, Horn-berger, Boyer, Snyders, Kutz, Manres, Dungleburger, Harner and Herbs. There are about a score of Heplers listed. The Tanyard, school house and church are located at the junc-tion of one of the little tributaries of the Big Mahantongo, about a mile east of the western boundary line. We find another school house in the eastern section, together with an-other Tanyard, about two miles from where the road comes in from Barry. In the upper fringe of the town-ship, Zimmermantown is marked as of importance, and approxixmately two miles east of here we find an-other church, while a mile east, a school. Up in the northwestern corner, we find Maurer's wool mill. Wetzel's tavern marks the almost exact center of the township, while three miles west, along a road run-ning to the northern boundary of the county, a church is marked.

Porter Township

Porter Township has a road marked through, together with one

connecting with it over into the Hegins Valley, but not a settlement is marked, except that of Keffer's tavern in the southeastern corner. Ten big land owners are designated between Fourth Mountain and the Big Lick Mountain. They are Jacob Schoff, D. Miller, C. Hinkle, Dalmeyer, J. Lengle, H. Lee, Jacob Yeager and three Witmans (William, Mary and John). Stephen Lengle and John Lesher are the only owners marked north of the Big Lick.

Hubley Township

Hubley Township has most of its settlement along Deep and Pine Creeks, with the Klinger family and the Kopenhafers having numerous representatives. Sacramento Post Office is marked at a point near a church and the designation of Wiest's tavern. Another church appears on the northwestern boundary line. Among the other names found are those of Foust, Shade, Coleman, Schedel, Houpt, Haldeman, Tobias, Harner, Updegrave, Artz, Carl, Lintman and Dietrich, the last named being the owner of a saw mill. A school house is noted at the junction of Kline and Deep Creek.

Upper Mahantongo Township

The Little Mahantongo and the Big Mahantongo—the same as in Eldred Township—marks the main settlements here, with most of the older names remaining. "Klinger T" (Klingerstown) is found in the northwest. From this point the settlements stretch out along both creeks. Along the Big Mahantongo we find the names of Ware, Klinger, Wolf, Osman, Steely, Dietz, Herbs, Rumberger, Miller, Syler, Snyder, Zimmerman, Reinert, Wetsel, and right on the boundary line a school house. Along the upper road in the Little Mahantongo we find Tobias, Knarr, Raybuck, Snyder, Hall, Agin, Erdman, Schlegel, Maurer, Herb (desig-

nated as a tavern), Fetterolf, more Maurers and Heplers, a school house, Dr. Carterman, C. Schlagle, and four families of Rinehart, S. Councilman, G. Moyer.

Map of 1871

With the arrival of 1871, eight years after the map of 1863 had been compiled, three new townships had been added, E. Union, N. Union and Ryan. With this map, all of the old-time family definitions and markings were taken off, being replaced by the towns. The townships as laid out, showed the following definite community characteristics.

West Penn: West Penn Post Office, Kepnerville, Reynolds, and North Penn.

Rahn: Tamaqua.

Ryan: None.

Rush: Delano, Gearhartsville, Girard Manor, Silver Brook, Barnesville.

East Brunswick: Dreherstown, McKeansburg, New Ringgold, Hecla.

Schuylkill: Lewistown, New England, Patterson, Tuscarora, Centreville.

Mahanoy: Mahanoy Plane, New Boston, St. Nicholas, Mahanoy City, Frackville, Springfield, Shenandoah, Yatesville.

East Union: Brandonville.

Union: Ringtown.

N. Union: Zion's Grove.

West Brunswick: Port Clinton, Orwigsburg, Auburn.

Blythe: Hubleyville, New Phila., Silver Creek, Middleport, Milford.

S. Manheim: None.

N. Manheim: Cressona, Sch. Haven and Landingville, Mt. Carbon.

East Norwegian: Palo Alto, Port Carbon, St. Clair.

Norwegian: Yorkville and Pottsville.

New Castle: Broad Mt., New Castle.

Wayne Twp.: Summit Station, Friedensburg.

Branch: Silverton, Cressonville, Llewellyn, Minersville.

Cass: Forest P. O., Minersville, Heckscherville.

Butler: Ashland, Foulkton, Girardville, Gordon.

Washington: Rock P. O., Sylliman P. O.

Reilly: Swatara, Branchdale, Taylorville.

Foster: Rohrersville, Monterey, Hughes.

Barry: Weishample P. O., Schneider P. O., Taylorville.

Pine Grove: Pine Grove and Elwood. Tremont: Tremont.

Frailey: Donaldson City, Woodville.

Porter: Tower City, Joliett.

Hegins: Germantown, Lower Mahantongo, Hegins.

Eldred: Zimmermantown.

Hubley: Sacramento.

Upper Mahantongo: Rough and Ready and Klingerstown.

Map of 1875

In 1875, Klein had been added, and West Mahanoy. The following additions are noted in the townships:

West Penn: None.

Rahn: Springfield and Centreville and Coaldale.

Rush: Barnesville, Quakake, Tamand, Summit Station.

Klein: Switchback, Silver Brook, Honeybrook.

East Union: Girard Manor.

Union: No change.

N. Union: Barrig Sta., New London.

E. Brunswick: Bausch's Station, Hecla.

Schuylkill: Reevesdale, Newkirk.

Ryan: Nothing.

Mahanoy: New Boston, Mahanoy City, St. Nicholas, Yatesville.

West Mahanoy: Raven Run, Colorado, Shenandoah, Frackville.

West Brunswick: Middle Station.

Blythe: Cumbola, Valley Furnace, Tucker Hill.

S. Manheim: Aucheys and Jefferson.

N. Manheim: No change.

E. Norwegian: Mill Creek, Belmont.

Norwegian: Fish Bach, Jalapa, Mount Hope, Scalpentown Village, New Street, Mount Laffee.

New Castle: Wadesville, Greenbury, Wayne: Long Run.

Branch: Phoenix, Dowdowntown.

Cass: Jonestown, Woodside Village, Sheaffer's Hill, Coal Castle, Thomaston, and Mockeysburg.

Butler: Ft. Springs, Preston, Rocktown, Locustdale. (This map shows just northeast of Girardville a graph marked as Shenandoah which is possibly the Lost Creek of today).

Washington: No change.

Reilly: Newtown, Tuckerville, New Mines.

Foster: Mt. Pleasant, Glen Carson.

Barry: Mabel, Deichland.

Pine Grove: Mifflin, Swataraville, Stanhope, Marstown. N. Pinegrove: Germantown, Cherryville and Umbenhauertown.

Tremont: Lorberry, Lower Rausch Creek.

Frailey: Strongville, Eckertville, Middle Creek.

Porter: Sheridan, Johnstown, (Orwin), Reiner City, Good Spring, Keffers, Joliett.

Hegins: Valley View, Fountain.

Eldred: Pitman (Zimmermantown).

Hubley: Springville, Gushwha.

Mahantongo: Hepler.

Map of 1888

In 1888, State Geologist J. P. Lesley compiled a map of Schuylkill County which was the first complete map of the county as it is now known. Few copies of this map are now in existence, but one was located by the J. H. Zerbey Newspapers Inc. in the possession of J. W. Geary, county surveyor, Pottsville, who kindly consented to permit the newspapers to have the use of the map in order to complete their sequence of

the county's growth. This map was made up as follows:

West Penn: Including the towns of Reynolds, New Ringgold, Kepnerville, West Penn P. O., Mantz, Andreas.

Walker Twp., organized in 1878, is taken out of Schuylkill and the towns of Lewistown and New England.

Schuylkill Twp., on this map contained Tuscarora, Reevesdale, Newkirk, Patterson, portions of Tamaqua.

Rahn Twp. has Coaldale.

Rush Twp. contains a lot of new locations, Barnesville, Mintzers, Tam-anend, Quakake.

Klein Twp. has Lofty, Silver Brook, Pleasant Hill.

Delano Twp. was added as of 1882, Deiano is the only marking.

East Brunswick: McKeansburg, Drehersville, Rausch's, New Ringgold and Hepler.

West Brunswick has Orwigsburg, Molino, and Port Clinton.

Blythe: Cumbola, New Phila. and Middleport.

Ryan: E. Mahanoy Junction.

Mahanoy: Morea, New Boston, New Boston Junction, Mahanoy City, Buck Mountain, St. Nicholas, Yatesville, Park Place.

West Mahanoy: Frackville, part of Mahanoy Plane, Maizeville, Gilberton, Lost Creek, Raven Run, Browns-ville, Shenandoah.

Union: Ringtown.

East Union: Brandonville, Oneida, Girard Manor.

North Union: Slabtown, Zion's Grove, Nuremberg, New London.

South Manheim: Jefferson, Auburn, Landingville.

North Manheim: Sch. Haven and Cressona, Mt. Carbon.

East Norwegian: St. Clair, Belmont, Mill Creek, Pt. Carbon, Palo Alto.

Norwegian: Westwoods, Yorkville, Minersville.

New Castle: Wadesville, New Castle, Broad Mountain.

Butler: Gordon, Locustdale, Ash-land, Girardville.

Wayne: Hammon, Friedensburg.

Branch: Silverton, Llewellyn.

Cass: Forrestville, Thomaston, and Heckscherville.

Washington: Stanhope and Rock.

Reilly: Blackwood, Newtown, and Swatara.

Foster: Mt. Pleasant and Glen Car-bon.

Barry: Weishample, Mabel, Barry, Taylorsville, Helfenstein.

Pine Grove: Suedburg, (Mifflin), Elwood, North Pinegrove, Lorberry Junction, Pinegrove.

Tremont: Lorberry, Tremont.

Frailey: Donaldson.

Porter: Tower City, Johnstown, Reiner City, Kalmia, Keffers, and Good Spring.

Hegins: Valley View, Hegins, and Fountain.

Hubley: Springville and Sacramen-to.

Upper Mahantongo: Klingerstown, Rough and Ready and Hepler.

Eldred: Pitman.

How County Was Formed

The complete county was made up as follows:

West Penn, original.

Rahn, 1860 from West Penn.

Klein, 1872 from Rush.

Delano, 1882 from Rush.

East Brunswick, 1835 from Bruns-wick.

Walker, 1878 from Schuylkill.

Schuylkill, original.

Ryan, 1868 from Mahanoy.

Mahanoy, 1850 from Rush.

East Union, 1867 from Union, Mah-anoy and Rush.

North Union, 1867 from Union.

Union, original.

West Brunswick, 835 from Bruns-wick, orginial.

Blythe, 1846 from Schuylkill.

West Mahanoy, 1875 from Maha-noy.

North Manheim, 1845 from Manheim, original.

South Manheim, 1845 from Manheim, original.

East Norwegian, original.

Norwegian, original.

New Castle, 1848 from Norwegian.

Wayne, 1827 from Pine Grove and Manheim.

Branch, 1838, from Norwegian.

Cass, 1846 from Branch.

New Castle, 1848 from Norwegian.

Butler, 1848 from Barry.

Washington, 1857 from Pine Grove and Wayne.

Reilly, 1857 from Branch and Cass.

Foster, 1855 from Butler, Barry and Cass.

Barry, 1821, from Norwegian and Schuylkill.

Pine Grove, original.

Tremont, 1848 from Pinegrove.

Frailey, 1847 from Branch, Barry, Porter and Lower Mahantongo.

Porter, 1840 from Lower Mahantongo.

Hegins, 1858 from Lower Mahantongo, Foster and Barry.

Hubley, 1853 from Lower Mahantongo.

Upper Mahantongo, original.

County Elevations

In 1855, Samuel Lewis, a Pottsville engineer, in an address to the Pottsville Scientific Association, gave the following as the key elevations of Schuylkill County:

Lock No. 3, in the Sharp Mt. Gap, 608.40 feet.

Top of Sharp Mt., West of Gap, 1233.64.

The doorsill and Atkins' pavement, site of the Moose, Centre and Mauch Chunk Sts., 636.84.

Doorsill of A. J. Womelsdorf's residence, between 6th and 7th on Mahantongo, 722.85.

Curbstone, Centre and Norwegian St., the keypoint of all city surveys, 627.47.

Mt. Laffee, 847.48.

Tremont, railroad, 920.53.

Broad Mt., 1486.73.

Port Clinton, 405.78.

Tamaqua, 787.50.

Port Carbon, 645.08.

St. Clair, 789.79.

Sch. Haven, 513.

West West, 676.

York Farm, 820.39.

Broad Mt., summit of the Centre Turnpike, 1653.37.

Ashland, 893.56.

Court House Doorsill, 713.57.

Auburn Once Known As Faustville

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* February 12-14, 1934)

The preparation of the history of Auburn Borough was a project of the Sophomore History Class, of the Auburn High School, Sarah K. Knisely, teacher. Jean Goss and Floyd Edris were the editors. David Hoffmeister contributed material on industry, early history, churches, canal and railroads; Claude Hawkins, on athletics and organizations; Mrs. Harry Runkle and Mrs. Horace Lindermuth, on schools; and John Pfleger, on early history and railroads.

Auburn, a town of about 1200 people, was first called Faustville, in honor of a family named Faust. Later, Wm. Hay, a Scotchman, living along the canal, named the town Scotchman's Locks. Two men, Mr. Warner and Mr. Miller, both residents of Reading, surveyed the land and made a drawing of the location of the village. They named the town Auburn, which had been suggested to them by G. A. Nicolls, Superintendent of the Reading Railway Co. This suggestion was made in remembrance of a European town of the same name, as well as, in remembrance of the "Deserted Village" found in Goldsmith's poem.

Auburn is located twelve miles south of Pottsville and twenty-five miles north of Reading. It is bounded on the north by Bunker Hill, which is, at present, leased by the Auburn Game and Fish Association, and is used as a hunting ground.

The Blue Ridge Mountains form the southern and western boundaries of Auburn. It is in this range that the town's reservoir is now located. The Schuylkill River bounds Auburn on the east, while to the northeast is Scalps Hill, so named because of the many persons massacred there by the Indians.

Surrounding this village are several places of historic note. Red Church, located at Pinedale, two miles northeast of Auburn, served as

a protection against the Indians. The original church was, however, burned during one of the Indian sieges. The present church is the fourth building at that site.

Fort Lebanon, located about one and one-half miles from Auburn is another place of historic note. It was built by Captain Jacob Morgan in 1756. Fifty-three men were stationed there, under the command of Captain Morgan, to patrol the County to Northkill and Allemaengle. During an attack by the Indians, over one hundred people were seized and the Fort was burned. It is still possible to see the location of this Fort. The cellar still remains about twenty-four feet from the road. A spring, where the settlers got their water, is also in evidence.

On May 30, 1913, the D. A. R. of the Mahantongo Chapter erected, with public ceremonies, a monument at the site of this Fort. The monument is a large rough stone embossed with an iron tablet.

A legend which is told concerning this Fort is as follows: The Johannes Hartmann family lived in a forest in W. Brunswick Twp. One day, in 1755, while Mr. Hartmann, with two of his daughters and one son, was eating his dinner, fifteen Indians, headed by Hammasolu, "The Tiger's Claw", and Pottowasnos, "The Boat Pusher", entered the cabin, killed Mr.

Hartmann and his son, burned the house and kidnapped the two girls. On the same day, the Indians murdered a family by the name of Smith and kidnapped their three-year old daughter.

The girls, who were kidnapped, did not wear shoes and because of this, their feet became very sore. The eldest Hartmann girl became very sick, therefore the Indians tomahawked her. Later hunters found her body and buried it.

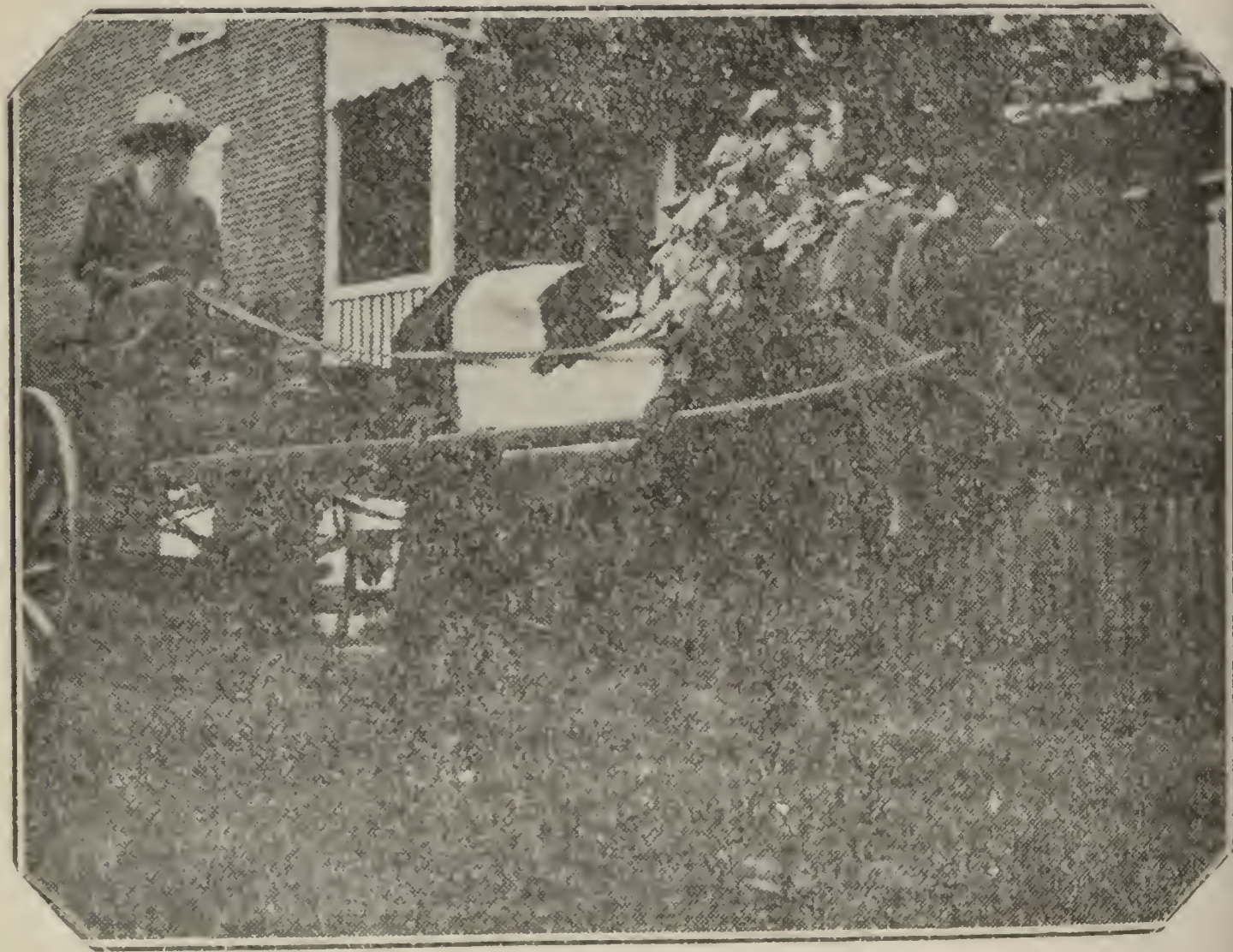
Nine years later, Mrs. Hartmann, who with her smaller son had been at a grist mill at the time of the massacre, received word that many white children had been taken from the Indians and were in charge of Colonel Bouquette at Carlisle. Mrs. Hartmann went there and, after sing-

ing a German lullaby which the child recognized, she identified her daughter. Susan Smith also was restored to her relatives.

Fausts Were Early Settlers

Turning to Auburn itself, some of the earliest settlers were the Fausts, previously mentioned, and the Moyers who came from Germany. Some later settlers included the Komeskys, the Dolans, and the Conertys, immigrants from Ireland, as well as the Kramers, the Diefenderfers and the Hoffmeisters, who also came from Germany.

The main portion of the earliest settlement was located along the canal, the section now called Canal and Bear Creek Sts. The first house was built by David Faust. The first hotel was called the Hotel Delmonica. This was a three-story brick structure of



Oxen were frequently used as a substitute for horses in the early days of Schuylkill County. In the picture above may be seen Capt. Henry Reppert, the first Chief Burgess of Auburn, with his ox-cart. This picture was taken in 1857.

colonial style, erected by Samuel Kramer in 1848.

In 1846, the old Bethel Church of God was erected. The first school was held in this church, in 1850. The Post Office, with Isaac Hoffmeister acting as Post Master, was located near these other buildings on Canal St.

Three locks of the Schuylkill canal were located in Auburn. A boat yard was located in the town and many boats were built. The first boatman was Gus Bylers, (G. W. Landis had charge of the stations and stables of the canal), and the first superintendent was L. B. Paxson. The head driver, under whom D. F. Hoffmeister, a present resident of Auburn, learned telegraph operating, lived in Pottstown.

Coming of the Railroad

In 1842 the population increased due to the building of the Reading Railroad, which connects Pottsville to Phila. Many Irish families moved in to the town to work on the railroad.

When the railroad was finished and the first train passed through the town, the townspeople were much excited, and gathered on the side of the road to watch for it. After it had passed, an old lady shouted in German: "You can't fool me. There were horses under that engine because I saw their breath."

The progress of the town continued steadily. Another railroad, The Schuylkill and The Susquehanna, which connected Auburn with Harrisburg, was built in 1854.

Still another railroad, the Schuylkill Valley Division of the Pennsylvania, was completed on July 6, 1886.

The town of Auburn became a Borough in 1857 with Capt. Henry Repert as Burgess. The main portion of the village moved from Canal Street to what is now known as Market St. Thirteen of the wooden houses, which were erected along this new section, are at the present time occupied by some of Auburn's leading citizens.

Auburn used coal oil lights for many years for street lighting. David McAllister was the lamplighter. On Dec. 3, 1911, electric street lights were installed. The current was obtained from the local electric light plant, located near the present brick yard. In 1913, the local plant passed into the hands of the Pa. Power & Light Co.

Had Serious Floods

In 1850 occurred the great flood. This was followed by another one in 1862, when the foundations of the canal were swept away and the operation of the same practically destroyed. It, however, was repaired and was used for limited traffic until 1888.

In August, 1933, the Schuylkill River, because of the heavy rains again overflowed its banks. Many homes were filled with water up to the second stories and boats were used as a means of transportation between the town and Tube Works, located on the opposite bank of the River. Fields were again covered as they had been in earlier floods.

A second calamity occurred in 1901 in the form of a smallpox epidemic. This necessitated an isolated place to be used as a hospital. To meet this need, an old house in Shoeners Dale was purchased. It was repaired and called, "the pest house." After the epidemic was over, the house was burned.

In 1846, the citizens of Auburn decided to erect a meeting house in the section of the town known as Scotchman's Locks. A subscription list was placed among the people to see what amount could be raised for its erection. There were one hundred and forty-six subscribers, who gave the total amount of \$589.37½. The largest contribution was one hundred dollars while the smallest was twelve and one-half cents. Having collected this amount a church was built and a place of worship afforded the people of the Lutheran, the Reformed and the German Church of God denominations.

First School in Church Basement

The first public school of the borough, as stated before, was held in the basement of the church. The first teachers were Daniel Moyer, Capt. Wellington Jones and Henry Eisenhuth. In the year 1859, members of the Reformed and the Lutheran faith erected their own church, known as St. John's Lutheran and Reformed Church, located north of town.

After the erection of this church in 1860, the public school was moved from the Community meeting house to the basement of the new building. The petition for a charter was presented to the court on June 10, 1861, and granted on December 2, 1861.

In the year 1868, Abraham Snyder was sent by the German Eldership of the Church of God from Harrisburg to the Community meeting-house, where he was to have charge of the services. Through some misunderstanding between Rev. Snyder and Jos. K. Moyer, there was a withdrawal of Jos. K. Moyer. In the year 1869 he, with his followers, erected a new church, known as the Bethel Church of God, located on Main St., of the town. The old meeting-house was abandoned in 1872.

In 1880, a number of the old people of the Bethel Church of God, where all services were held in the English language, withdrew and erected the German Eldership Church of God, where all services were held in the German language.

The Bethel Church of God on Main St., has continually increased its membership and has been improved in many ways. The German Church of God is at present used occasionally, but only few improvements have been made. The St. John's Lutheran and Reformed Church has been greatly increased in membership.

The earliest school, mentioned before as being held in the basement of the old Church of God on the corner of Canal and Bear Creek Streets, was a

pay school. The teacher was a young woman by the name of Miss Spring.

The second school was a large brick building about one-half mile south of Auburn. There were about 20 pupils in attendance. In 1862, there were 79 males and 52 females enrolled, or a total of 131 pupils. The tax millage for schools that year was six mills; for building purposes, four mills, and the total amount collected was \$553.39. The State appropriation that year was \$42.80. The School Board, which included J. G. Willison, President; I. Berntheisel, Secretary; Daniel Koch, Treas.; Abraham Moyer; Benj. Koch, and Jacob Kramer, borrowed \$525 to erect a school building.

The first school house was then erected on Forest and First Sts. Some of the teachers were J. B. Williams, H. H. Fleisher, Alice Dinan, and Kate Schwenk. Their salaries ranged from \$30 to \$58 a month. The subjects taught were reading, writing, arithmetic, geography and spelling. The school term was as follows: Primary school extended over a period of four months, beginning Dec. 1st and ending in March; The principal school extended over a period of six months, beginning Oct. 1st and ending in March. Tuition for the pupils from outside of the District was fifty cents a month.

In 1890, the same year in which Dr. Quail was instigator of the town reservoir, it was found that this school house was crowded. Therefore, the Board of Education erected a school house located on the Corners of Pine and Third Sts. This was completed on June 16 of that year. Miss Laura E. Moyer, who only recently retired as a teacher of the Auburn Primary School, began her services in that year. The school term was eight months.

On Sept. 3, 1909, the building described above was destroyed by fire.

Since only one building remained, in 1926 it became necessary to make provision for more pupils. Therefore, a one-room portable building was brought and erected under the direction of John Peiffer. This was first used as a high school, later as a grammar school. Seven teachers were employed at that time.

Present School Built In 1931

In 1931, the present brick school building was erected. This is situated on Church St., facing Orchard St. It contains ten rooms, a large auditorium and two offices; and at present is occupied by 250 pupils. The Board of Education, at the time of the erection of the building, included Dr. L. C. Robinhold, Pres.; Robert Schwartz, Vice Pres.; Harry Runkle, Treas.; Horace D. Linder-muth, Secty., and Frank Young. The board employed and still continues to hire two high school teachers, four grade teachers and a music supervisor.

Early Industries

Some of the first industries located in Auburn included a bootery, a blast furnace, a tailor shop, two bakeries and two stores. The Bootery was begun in 1865 by Jonas Ebert. In 1868, he sold his stock to Jacob Borkey, who operated the shop until his death. His son, Henry Borkey, then took over the shop. It was abandoned in 1919.

The blast furnace, owned by a man named Potts, was started at Jefferson, Penna. John Kauffman bought it from him, but it has been impossible to obtain the date when the transaction was made. Mr. Kauffman kept the furnaces until his death in 1901.

A tailor shop, owned by Mr. Shapell, was maintained in the house now occupied by Paul Klinger. The family

lived in the part of the house now occupied by Harold Rudy and family.

Jos. Erwin started a bakery in 1879 in the house now occupied by the Dewald bakery. Mr. Erwin continued in that business for four years, at which time he sold out to Samuel Dewald. Samuel's son, Irvin, got the business from him and is still active in it. The second bakery was started by Daniel Reber but it was not maintained many years. Mr. Reber also had a restaurant where Jacob Clauser now has his paint shop.

In 1874, Mr. Koon, a tinsmith, built the store now occupied by John Ramer. It was bought by Jos. Frederici, who in turn sold it to Harvey Fehr. The second store was built by A. K. Frederici in 1877. It was operated, in the order given, by these men: Milton Deibert, Walmer, Mr. Bassler, Mr. Walmer, Mr. Seaman, and finally, H. B. Harding.

About the year 1880, the Auburn Shale Brick Co. was organized. Samuel K. Moyer financed it and Dr. Quail acted as a business adviser. The kilns were small and the bricks were made by hand. The company was located south of Washington St., where the present shale brick company operates. There have been various improvements made in this industry. In 1887, the Auburn Nut and Bolt Works was organized. On May 1, 1888, the company was leased for five years to D. J. Driscoll of Reading. He maintained his office in the front room of the present D. F. Hoffmeister home. When the lease expired, the stock was bought by Mr. Driscoll and the company was reorganized. Shortly afterward this industry was abandoned until 1893, when it resumed operation under Mr. Driscoll and Mr. John Morrison. Nickel plating was their chief production. Later seamless

tubes were manufactured. The mill, one of the first of its kind in the United States, is still in operation under the Allegheny Steel Co., of Pittsburgh. It is now known as The Delaware Seamless Tube Co.

A broom works was started by Wm. Diefenderfer and Wm. Faust in what is now the Auburn Knitting Mill. Some years later they began to manufacture hosiery; then in 1895, underwear. At the present time, sweaters, bathing suits and beach pajamas are made. The knitting mill is now managed by Wm. Diefenderfer's son, Guy H. Diefenderfer.

In the month of November, 1914, the Auburn Board of Trade built the present shoe factory. This building was taken over and occupied by G. W. Hubler in March, 1915. It was purchased from the Board of Trade by Mr. Hubler in 1918. At the present time he is engaged in the manufacture of children's, misses', and infants' welt shoes. He employs approximately 75 persons.

Odd Fellows Early Organization

The earliest organization of social importance on record in the history of Auburn is that of the Odd Fellows, organized September, 1858. On Jan. 1, 1887, a camp of the Patriotic Order Sons of America was organized and still continues to be very active. Some other early organizations included Knights of the Golden Eagle, Knights of Labor, Daughters of Rebecca, Junior and Senior Orders of the United American Mechanics, The American Protective Assn. and The Independent Order of Redmen, all of which were founded between the years 1887 and 1900.

The first fire company was organized by Geo. Lavan in 1898. It consisted of volunteers who were called "the Vigilants." Some years later it changed its name and was reorganized. In 1921, the new brick building, located on First St., was erected.

Modern equipment has also been purchased in recent years.

The present Auburn Band was organized in October, 1907, by Irvin DeWald. It was composed of about twenty boys, ranging in age from eleven to sixteen years. Before this time, in fact, since 1870, Auburn has had a band. In 1877, a band, under the leadership of Mr. Drumheller, presented a series of plays in the old red schoolhouse. The admission charged for the first play entitled, "The Last Loaf", was ten cents.

In the spring of 1917, the first troop of Girl Scouts was organized by Miss Mary Bassler. For a few years, the troop was very active but, because interest waned, it was not re-registered. In 1925, Mrs. Edgar Sellers again reorganized the troop.

The Boy Scouts were organized in March, 1918, under the leadership of Rev. R. S. Edris. For three years, the Troop was active but they, too, failed to register. In February, 1926, they were reorganized through the efforts of Edgar Sellers. For six years they were under the supervision of Ira A. Goss. Following the resignation of Mr. Goss in 1932, Galen McInroy was elected Scout Master. He resigned in October, 1933, and since that time the Troop has been under the leadership of Mark A. Borkey, Assistant Scout Master.

Another active organization is the Grange, organized June 10, 1908. First it was located at Summit Station, then moved to Jefferson, later to Auburn. In the fall of 1926, a Juvenile Grange was organized by Mrs. John Reber. This organization was not in existence very long.

The Auburn Free Public Library, another organization of great civic importance, was organized by the Civic Club in July, 1924. It was chartered on Dec. 31, 1925, and at present owns 1,238 books. There are approximately 300 patrons. The cir-

ulation for the years in which it has been in existence totals twenty-eight thousand nine. The Library is supported by donations and benefits, and is under the direction of the Library Board, composed of citizens of the community.

A National Four-H Club for girls was organized in June, 1931, by Miss Isabel Myers, State Home Economics representative, from Pottsville. Mrs. John Reber was the local leader for two years; Mrs. Geo. Binner acted in that position last year.

Baseball Chief Athletic Activity

Baseball is the chief athletic activity in Auburn. In the past years, Auburn has usually been represented by a strong baseball team which could cope with the best amateur teams in the surrounding counties. The first team was organized in 1872 and named the "Free and Easy Baseball Club." One of the first games won by Auburn, at the score of 29 to 8, was played with the Stave Club of Orwigsburg. The players included in the Auburn team were Thos. McAtter, pitcher; Henry Kramer, catcher; Wm. Conerty, Chas. Kramer, Oscar Mengel, David Hoffmeister, Wm. Faust, Chas. Fahl, and Abraham Faust.

Then, for a period of a year, Auburn was not represented on the diamond, since it was unable to secure a satisfactory playing field. Finally, however, a diamond was secured along Bear Creek near to the Borough limits.

In 1898, a strong team was maintained by an organization called "The Coming Men of America." This organization held its meetings in a small shed and was active until 1904.

For several years H. D. Lindermuth acted as manager of the team. E. A. Rausch and Wm. Steffy, Sr., followed him in this position.

Jos. Morrison, a member of the team during the time that these men acted as managers, was considered a brilliant all-round player. He was killed in action in France.

Roy J. Hawkins, third baseman on the same team in which Jos. Morrison played, was given several workouts with the Phila. Athletics under Connie Mack.

Auburn has been producing good teams for many years and is now considered an outstanding baseball center. Luke Wenrich, sensational pitcher of 1933, has been signed up by the New York Yankees. He is at present Captain of the Auburn team.

Fine War Record

The War Records of Auburn show that there were citizens who took part in almost every war which occurred during the progress of our country. Henry Koch was the only man who saw service in the French and Indian War, while Jacob Petery was the only man to serve in the War of 1812. During the Civil War, sixteen men served on the Muster-roll in the Provost Guard of Captain Wellington Jones's Company. This Company, during its term of service, did arduous duty at Harrisburg and Washington. Eighty citizens also served as Privates in the Northern Army.

During the Spanish and American War, five citizens enlisted in the Fourth Penna. Infantry.

When the World War broke out, eighty men enlisted and gave their services for their country. Jos. Morrison was the only Auburn boy killed in action. He won the Italian "Croix de Guerre" with the palm, carrying with it a special citation from Marshall Petain. He was buried in the American Cemetery, Meuse Argonne, at Romange, France.

In 1926, the citizens, by popular subscription, erected the Soldiers' Monument, located on the corner of Market and First Sts. It was dedicated on Nov. 11th. An impressive part of the public ceremony was the unfurling of the flag by Jos. Morrison, the small nephew of the Jos. Morrison who was the only Auburn citizen killed in action in France. The flag was raised on the new flag pole, presented by the Auburn Hose Co. John R. Morrison, father of the deceased Jos. Morrison, was chairman of the Monument Committee.

The monument is made of Barre granite, and bears a plate containing the names of the World War Veterans.

Some Noted Citizens

Some of the noted men in Auburn, who have either been born or spent a great part of their lives in the community and have, in some way, either rendered a great service to its citizens or achieved a marked success in life, are as follows:

Frank L. Brown, Ph. C., was born at Lebanon in 1870, took a course in Pharmacy in Phila., was graduated in 1891 and opened a drug store in Norristown. In 1902 he moved to Auburn, where he has been a druggist up to the present time. His two sons, Luther Brown and Frank Brown, have achieved success worthy of note.

Lieut. Luther Brown of the U. S. Marines was born at Norristown in 1900. With his parents and brother, he came to Auburn in 1902. He attended the Auburn school, graduated from the Pottsville H. S., attended the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md., and was appointed Captain aboard a new naval ship. Shortly afterward he left the Navy and joined the Marines. At the present time, he is a commanding officer of the De-

tention Prison of the Naval Receiving base at Norfolk, Va.

Rev. Frank M. Brown was born at Norristown in 1897, came to Auburn in 1902, was educated in the Auburn schools, graduated from the Pottsville H. S.; Muhlenburg College; Mt. Airy Seminary. Later he attended the University of Penna. He was for a time pastor of the Holy Nativity Lutheran Church in New York City, and, at the present time, is the head director of the Luther Hospice and Pastor of the Lutheran Settlement, Phila.

Daniel D. Diebert was born Feb 21, 1840, at Sch. Haven. He worked with his father as a boat builder. In 1893 he moved to Auburn where he was engaged in the mercantile business for 43 years.

Wm. Diefenderfer was born May 29, 1854, near Auburn. He spent his youth assisting his father with the farm work. During the early part of his business career he was engaged in the manufacture of brooms and later, hosiery. In the year 1895 he began the manufacture of underwear. Since he had part-ownership in the underwear factory with W. C. Faust, upon Mr. Faust's death, he purchased the remaining shares for himself. He was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Auburn. On Jan. 24, 1914, he died.

Guy H. Diefenderfer, son of Wm. Diefenderfer, was born on Aug. 16, 1889 in Auburn. He obtained his early education in the Auburn public schools, graduated from Pottsville High School, and finished a course in Peirce Business College, Phila., in 1909. In 1910 he was graduated from Perkiomen Seminary, Pennsburg, Penna. He was preparing for a course at Lehigh College, but instead entered his father's business.

At the present time he is manager of the Auburn Knitting Mills.

H. H. Fleisher was born Jan. 24, 1862. He attended the Tamaqua and Auburn Public Schools, Shippenburg Normal School, and was graduated from Bloomsburg Normal School. Upon completion of his courses he became the first principal of the Auburn Grammar Schools. Later, he entered the Educational Department at Harrisburg. Retiring on a pension, he now resides in Camden, N. J.

Fred V. Filbert was born at Pinegrove in 1871. He was graduated from the Pinegrove High School, Gettysburg College and the University of Penna. Law School. He was married to E. Luella Quail, a daughter of Dr. Quail, in 1889, and moved to Auburn in 1910. He served in the department of the Auditor General at the State Capitol in Harrisburg for seven years. He had charge of the Escheat Bureau, practiced law for 37 years and served as assistant in a District Attorney's office in Schuylkill County. At present, Mr. Filbert is Attorney on the Board of Viewers in Schuylkill County and is Secretary-Treasurer of the Auburn Water Co.

Aaron K. Frederici was born April 16, 1850 on a farm one mile south of Auburn. He attended South Manheim School until 17 years of age. Mr. Frederici taught school for two years in West Penn Twp., then entered the mercantile life and in 1879, built the present Harding and Heffner store. He served on both the Auburn School Board and the Borough Council, acted as President of the Auburn Shale Brick Co., and was Justice of the Peace until his death in January, 1932. His term of office as Justice of the Peace, 53 years, was the longest in service of its kind in Pennsylvania. He was a member of

Saint John's Lutheran Church and, from his youth, served as an organist and in other official capacities in the church.

Herbert C. Frederici, son of Aaron K. Frederici, was born Nov. 3, 1878. He attended the Auburn Borough Schools and was graduated from Millersville Teachers' College in 1895. He taught in the Auburn Schools from 1895 to 1900 and gave piano lessons during the same period. Later Mr. Frederici entered the piano business in Phila. and New York, and established a piano manufacturing business in New York City in 1913. This work is being continued at the present time. In 1932, Mr. Frederici was elected President of the Auburn Shale Brick Co.

A. Wendall Frederici was born Oct. 17, 1894 in Auburn. He was valedictorian of the first graduating class of the Auburn High School in 1907. Mr. Frederici was graduated from business school in 1916, received his M. A. degree from Princeton University in 1924. He taught in the Hamburg High School, Short Hills Community Schools in New Jersey, and is now Professor of Mathematics at Lawrenceville Academy, N. J.

Clarence J. Frederici was born March 17, 1881. He attended the Auburn Public Schools and was graduated from Pottsville High School. In 1904 he completed a course in Civil Engineering at Lehigh University and is now Division Engineer with the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad. He is located at Madison, Wis.

Geo. Wm. Hubler was born at Buechly Station, North Pinegrove, on Feb. 18, 1868. Following the death of his father, his mother moved to N. Manheim Twp. where he attended rural school. At age of 12, Mr. Hubler began work in a shoe

factory, and at the same time attended night school in Orwigsburg. In 1890, in partnership with George Adams, he started a shoe factory at Adamsdale, which work he continued until 1913. For two years, Mr. Hubler then engaged in the shoe business with his brother in Philadelphia. In March, 1915, he moved to Auburn and bought his present factory.

Geo. Harold Hubler, son of Geo. W. Hubler, was born at Adamsdale, on Feb. 15, 1897. He attended the Orwigsburg Public Schools, spent a year at Swarthmore Preparatory School, and entered Haverford College. Leaving Haverford in 1918, he served in the chemical warfare service for 14 months. Following his discharge from the army in 1919, he returned to Auburn and engaged in the shoe business of his father. At present he is a member of that firm.

Daniel Koch, father of ex-Judge Richard H. Koch, moved to Auburn in 1857. In 1862, he was elected a member of the school board and served as treasurer for several years. One of his duties was to collect the school tax. Judge Koch attended the Auburn schools for seven years. The family left the vicinity in 1866.

Horace D. Lindermuth was born in Auburn, Sept. 11, 1877. He attended the Auburn Public Schools and Pottsville Business College. He started his business life as a clerk for the Delaware Seamless Tube Co., at Auburn. For eleven years he was a state auditor in the Auditor General's Department. He then became Superintendent of the Ashland State Hospital. Mr. Lindermuth acted as Secretary in the Auburn School Board for 34 years. He was an active member of the Free and Accepted Masons, thirty-second degree, as well as in many other lodges. Mr. Lindermuth died on Oct. 19, 1933.

John R. Morrison was born Jan. 29, 1867 in Aberfeldy, Scotland. He was educated in the schools of Aberfeldy and entered the South Kensington Technical School of London, England on a Queen Victoria Scholarship. After graduation in 1888, he came to America, located in Reading, and accepted a position with the Reading Iron Co.

Mr. Morrison came to Auburn in 1896 as one of a company to manufacture seamless cold drawn tubes for the Auburn Nut and Bolt Works. In 1902 the company was reorganized as the Delaware Seamless Tube Co. He served as Supt. of this concern until July, 1925, when, with his two sons, he started the Morrison Motor Car Co., at Orwigsburg. His death occurred on April 12, 1927.

Jos. W. Morrison, son of John R. Morrison, was born March 2, 1894, in Reading. He came to Auburn in 1896, was graduated from the Auburn High School in 1911, from the Pottsville High School in 1913. He attended Lehigh College for four years; then enlisted in the U. S. Army Ambulance Corps, in 1917. In Dec., 1917, he sailed for France and on Nov. 1, 1918, while serving with the Second Division Marines, he was killed in the Argonne. He is buried in the American Cemetery, Meuse Argonne, Romange, France.

Miss Laura E. Moyer was born Jan. 27, 1868, in Auburn. She attended the local schools and was elected as teacher of the secondary grade in 1886. In 1889, Miss Moyer, having been graduated from the Kutztown Normal School, became teacher of the primary school and served in the same school for 42 years. Since her voluntary retirement in 1931, she resides with her sister in Phila.

Joseph H. Zerbey History, Pottsville and Schuylkill County, Penna.

Charles Edward Quail, M. D., was born Oct. 9, 1841, in Baltimore, Maryland. He began his education in the Baltimore public schools, attended Mt. Irbin College, Manchester, Md., and began his medical course at the Maryland University. When the Civil War broke out, he enlisted Aug. 2, 1862 in Co. D, Eighth Regiment of Maryland Volunteers. It was commanded by Col. Andrew Dennison and attached to the Army of the Potomac. At the end of the war, he completed his medical course at the Maryland University and served his internship at the Baltimore Infirmary.

Dr. Quail came to Auburn in March, 1867 and began an independent practice. He was a member of the Schuylkill County Medical Society and the State Medical Society. He was one of the organizers of the Auburn Nut and Bolt Works and acted as President of that firm for almost five years. For 33 years, he served on the Auburn School Board. In 1900, Dr. Quail was honored by being elected State Senator for his District. He was re-elected in Nov., 1904. He also acted as Republican County Chairman.

Dr. Quail was a member of the Gettysburg Battlefield Memorial Commission. After the dedication of the monument he went to Harrisburg to see Gov. Stewart and on Dec. 21, 1910, he died suddenly in the Capitol. His death was the first to occur there after the completion of that building.

Dr. Lewis C. Robinhold was born Jan. 8, 1869, at Port Clinton, Penna. He was educated in the Port Clinton Public Schools, and was graduated from Pottsville High School in 1889. He entered Jefferson Medical College and in 1891 completed his course in that institution. In 1895, Dr. Robinhold settled in Auburn. At present he is President of the Auburn School Board of which he has been a member for 36 years, as well as of the Auburn Board of Health.

Guy Robinhold, son of Dr. Lewis C. Robinhold, was born Dec. 1, 1895 in Auburn. He attended the Auburn Public Schools, was graduated from the Pottsville High School in 1914. He entered Jefferson College and with honors completed his medical course in 1919, served his internship at the Ashland State Hospital, was appointed to a position on the Staff of that same Institution and later became Assistant to the Chief Surgeon. In 1933, he was appointed Chief Surgeon of the Hospital and holds that position at the present time.

Dr. Jas. H. Sallade, veterinarian of Auburn, was born in Hereford Township, Berks County, on Aug. 14, 1850. He attended the public schools of his native township, those of East Greenville, Montgomery County, the Academy at Boyertown, and later the Keystone Normal School. He taught school in Hereford and Boyertown, for six years, and during school vacations worked in the iron ore mines and the country store. In 1872 he was appointed clerk and deputy warden of the Berks County jail, after which he held the position of steward of the Insane Department of the Berks County Almshouse for six years. In 1883 Dr. Sallade was graduated with honors from Ontario Veterinary College and two years later moved to Pottsville. In 1895 he was also appointed a member of the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Examining Board, a position he held until his death. In 1906 he passed the Civil Service examination and was employed by the Federal government in Scientific Research. He held the positions of Deputy Sheriff, and for three years was Steward of the Schuylkill County Almshouse. In Auburn, to which he moved in 1901 he was Vice President of the bank, and a member of the School Board. Dr. Sallade died in 1922.

Blythe Township Was Formed In 1846

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* February 15-19, 1934)

The work of preparing the History of Blythe Township was under the supervision of Julia C. Murray, Department of Social Science, Blythe Township High School, and the following committee: Bernadette Devine, Wanda Garbash, Frances Guers, Susan Gulosh, Joseph Kurderka, Edward Kurek, Veronica Lorence, Jean Maurer, Mary Matlock, Rita Quinn, Mary Russell, Mary Strauss, Anna Tamulavage, Wm. Whalen.

The committee wishes to acknowledge contributions and criticisms from Adam Mackey of Cumbola; Martin Malone of Five Points; Miss Martha Devine of Cumbola; and other residents who graciously contributed information for the history; and to the teachers, principals, and students of Blythe Township schools, who in any way helped in its compilation.

The committee also gratefully acknowledges information secured from the various Schuylkill County Histories.

Blythe Township was set off from Schuylkill Township in 1846. The northern and southern portions are broken and mountainous. The central portion is traversed by the valley of the Schuylkill. The most notable tributary to the Schuylkill in this township is Silver Creek, which rises near the northern border and has its junction with the river at New Philadelphia. Near the head of this stream is the Silver Creek reservoir constructed as a feeder to the Schuylkill Canal. Blythe is bounded by Ryan, Schuylkill, Walker, W. Brunswick, N. Manheim, East Norwegian and New Castle Townships. It was named in honor of Judge Calvin Blythe.

The first township election was ordered "to be held at the public house of M. Balliett in Middleport." Mails in this section were somewhat irregular until 1830. The first post-office in the township had been established in Middleport early in the previous May, with Jacob Huntzinger as postmaster. When Blythe Township was first organized, New

Philadelphia and Middleport were part of it.

Michael Whalen, father of the late prominent attorney, John F. Whalen, was one of the first tax collectors of Blythe Twp. Nathan Barlow was an early Justice of the Peace serving 20 years, and was never known to have sent a case to court. Barlow built one of the first homes in New Phila.

There are two prosperous boroughs in Blythe Township, around which centers much of the township history. New Philadelphia is the largest and most prosperous borough in the township. In 1841, there were two houses in the village. They were built by Andrew Bubb and Nathan Barlow. New Phila. was incorporated as a borough in 1868 and Chas. Tanner was the first chief burgess.

Middleport borough was founded by Jacob Huntzinger, who in 1828, purchased the land upon which a portion of the borough is now located and laid it out in village lots, which were offered for sale. Jacob Hunt-

zinger was the pioneer business man of the village. He opened a store there in the spring of 1829. The village had a slow growth until the railroad was built, after which the population was increased by persons interested in the coal trade of the valley. The location was advantageous in other respects, because it was located on the state road from Pottsville to Mauch Chunk, and another state road leading from Orwigsburg northward. The village was incorporated as a borough in 1850, and the first meeting of the borough council was held in May of that year. Adam Stahl was the first settler on the village site of Middleport, and members of his family were prominent land owners in the locality for many years.

Early Settlers And Immigrants

The earliest inhabitants of Blythe Township were German farmers. It was not until about the time of the opening of the Schuylkill canal that there were many families living in the valley between the present eastern and western borders of the township.

The early German settlers of Blythe Twp. were followed by Irish, Welsh, Scotch and English Immigrants. Later followed Polish, Lithuanians and Russians. The mining operations in various portions of Blythe Township have caused the growth of settlements and villages which have become known as Cumbola, Kaska, Silver Creek, Valley Furnace, Tucker Hill, Lorraine and Eagle Hill. The most important of the above named settlements are Cumbola and Kaska. The former received its name from a small town in Wales called Cumberla. Cumbola is a small town in the western part of the township which became a thriving little place during the early mining ventures in that locality.

The old name for Kaska was "Dick Ader," and sometimes it was spoken of as Big or Mammoth Vein. Kaska is a small mining town situated on the crest of the hill above Middleport. The name is of Indian origin. The Alliance Colliery of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company provides employment for the residents.

With the opening of the Schuylkill canal, coal mining began to be active and the interest increased in importance with the construction of the Schuylkill Valley Railroad. Blythe was the scene of much bustle and enterprise during the active period of coal mining in the Schuylkill District. Silver Creek, Eagle Hill, and Shoo Fly Collieries were early mining developments.

Tumbling Run which is located in the southern end of the township was formerly named Germantown, and Blythe Independent. There are twelve homes at Tumbling Run. Here the chief occupation of the people is farming.

Mr. Mackey, who was one of the pioneer settlers of Blythe Township, tells us there were two houses on the site which is now Cumbola when he moved to the settlement. The population of Blythe Township according to 1930 census is 2206. Mr. Mackey saw the beginning of many mining operations in Blythe Township; the construction of churches and schools. He also tells us that boys between the ages of 9 and 12 were employed around the collieries.

Some of the prominent early settlers of Blythe Township were: Archbishop Gilmore, of Cleveland, Ohio, who was a former Cumbola resident; Father Muldowney, of Sch. Haven, who was also a resident of Cumbola; Father Wm. O'Connel, of Valley Furnace; Father Peter Dagget, of Bear Ridge; Father Hugh

J. McGettigan, of Silver Creek; Father Patrick J. Ryan, of Tucker Hill; Father D. J. McGettigan, the present pastor of The Church of the Transfiguration in Philadelphia; Father John Campbell, of Valley Furnace, now located in Texas.

The Beddal and Charles Johns families were early prominent citizens. The John Hearn and James Baney families, of Bear Ridge, were noted comedians and musicians.

Development Of Educational System

The oldest school houses in Blythe Township were located at Tucker Hill and Tumbling Run. The latter was built more than one hundred years ago and is still in use. This building was also used as a Church some time ago. There is a small cemetery behind the school.

There was also a one room school house located about two miles west of the present Tumbling Run building. It was torn down and the students of Lower Tumbling Run are transported to the present school building.

The first school house at Valley Furnace was built in 1868. The first teacher was John F. Whalen, who later became a very prominent lawyer of Schuylkill County. This building was destroyed by fire; another school was built at the bottom of the hill, and it still stands today.

Another old school building was located at Cumbola where the present Conroy home stands; it adjoins the present Cumbola school. In 1870, there were approximately one hundred pupils in the school, taught by three teachers. P. F. Devine was the school master, assisted by two teachers.

The late Archbishop Gilmore, of Cleveland, Ohio, was born in Cumbola. He went to school to an old Irish schoolmaster named Quinn, who

was a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland. From him he learned Greek and Latin, which helped him considerably in later years. Mr. Quinn taught school in a small building located near the present Cumbola school; it was later destroyed by fire. The Cumbola school today is equipped with all modern conveniences; so are all the other school buildings of the township.

Early Teachers

Some of the early teachers of Blythe Township were: John Shields, father of Mrs. Edw. Flanigan, Sr., of New Phila., Jas. McLaughlin, Hugh Sweeney, Mary Frances Kinsley (Mrs. John Haggerty), Miss Lizzie Beck, of Port Carbon, who opened a school at Cumbola in 1867; she taught sewing, knitting, and fancy work to the girls. Patrick F. Devine; John S. McLaughlin; P. McLaughlin, who later became district attorney of Schuylkill County; Elizabeth Cullen (Mrs. Thos. Flanigan); Wm. Connelley and Mrs. Thos. Kane were also among the early teachers of Blythe Township.

About seventy years ago the school at Kaska was built of stone. It was heated by an old cylindrical stove; the pipe extended through the ceiling, and the school often caught fire. Three children sat on one large seat. These seats were situated around the stove.

The subjects taught were reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling, history and geography. The students were promoted by readers instead of grades which we use today. Slates were used instead of tablets, making it necessary for the pupils to carry a bottle of water and a small sponge to clean their slates. Miss Margaret Flannigan was one of the first teachers at Kaska.

Night School For Mine Workers

Night School was held for the boys who could not attend day school because they helped to support the family by working at the mines. The light was furnished by coal oil lamps. Heavy shutters were used on the windows. This school later was torn down; and J. C. Bright's store was erected where the old school formerly stood.

The next school was built of wood and painted green. This school stood for years behind the old one. John McLaughlin, of Cumbola, was one of the first teachers. Then another school was built with two rooms. The Methodist people took the old green school and used it for religious services. Later the two room school burned down.

The teachers instructed the children at their homes. Eliza Boyle taught the lower grades in her home; Jennie Campbell taught the fourth grade in one room at Baily's home and James McDonald taught fifth and sixth grades in his home.

In 1919, a new school was built with three rooms; each room was heated by a furnace. In 1932, this school was remodeled. Steam heat, electric lights, and the latest improvements were introduced. Two rooms and a library were also added. A radio was installed.

Now Six School Buildings

There are six school buildings in actual use in Blythe Township. They are: Cumbola, Kaska, Lorraine, Valley Furnace, Tumbling Run, and the High School Building. Silver Creek and Tucker Hill schools were closed in 1930. The students from these schools are transferred to Valley Furnace school. Two other schools, one located at Bear Ridge and another at Windy Harbor, were closed owing to state requirements. The students from these sections receive their edu-

cation at the present time in the Cumbola school. The school term of Blythe Twp. is 9 1-2 months.

Blythe Twp. High School is a Junior-Senior organization of grades 7 to 12 inclusive. T. R. Gibbons is the principal. The present enrollment is 566. Mr. Gibbons is a graduate of Cass Twp. High School, Keystone State Normal School, and Muhlenberg College.

At the opening of the High School in 1928 the number of students was less than 150. During the years from 1929 to 1933, there was an approximate gain of 80 per cent. for each succeeding year. Because of the increased enrollment at the present time, the School Board is planning to enlarge the building. The percentage of non-resident students in the High School is approximately 61 per cent. of the student body. Schuylkill, East Norwegian, East Brunswick and Walker Townships are represented, as well as the boroughs of New Phila., Middleport and Palo Alto.

Since the population of Blythe Twp. is widely scattered, it is necessary to transport the pupils, particularly those in the High School. At present three buses are used to transport 218 pupils.

The High School is situated in the centre of Blythe Twp., north of New Phila., which was formerly a part of Blythe Twp. One may secure an excellent view of the surrounding country from the top of the building. Blythe High School Building was completed in 1925, with Gordon Nagle, of Cressona, acting as general contractor. It is a three story building of steel and brick.

Improvements in Blythe H. S.

During the summer months of 1933 a great deal of hustle and bustle took place at Blythe High.

New lockers have been installed to handle the surplus books and coats. A remarkable improvement is the

new blue and gold curtains on the stage. The latter has been enlarged, providing ample space for entertainments. New scenery has also been added, which enhances the beauty of the auditorium.

The physics and chemistry laboratories have received additional equipment, such as flasks, test tubes, chemicals and beakers.

Recently the School Library received about 650 new books, including fiction, non-fiction and reference books. Of this number the majority belong to the fiction group.

Blythe High School has a modern dispensary, supplied with sufficient equipment, and supervised by a graduate nurse of St. Agnes Hospital, Phila.

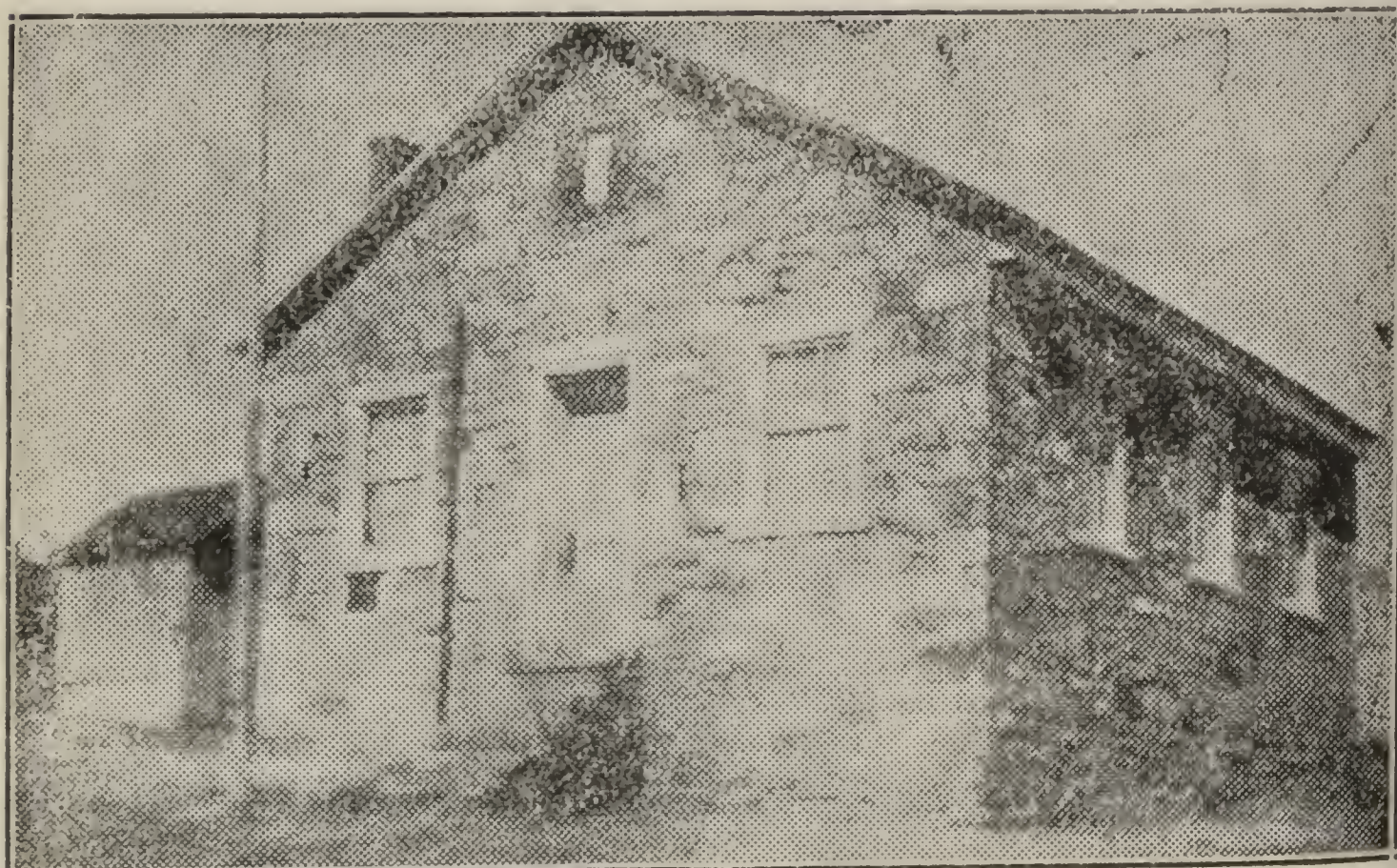
One great advantage which Blythe possesses over other schools is the new athletic field. The stadium which measures about 300 feet in width and 480 feet in length, cost

approximately \$10,000. It has seating capacity for 600 people, but room for 300 more is being planned and will soon be available.

It is not only valuable during football, baseball and track seasons, but is being constantly used by both girls and boys in physical education classes. The stadium is one of the largest in the county. It also has one thing which very many high school stadiums do not have, namely a gate house. On the first floor of the gate house are shower accommodations for both girls and boys.

The stadium was dedicated on Saturday, Oct. 23, 1933. Dr. Walters, of Pinegrove, delivered the dedication address. Immediately after the exercises, a football game between Cass Twp. and Blythe was played, with a victory in favor of the latter, to the score of 13-0.

The Supervising Principal of the Blythe Twp. Schools at the time the



The Tumbling Run School House which was built over one hundred years ago, is in use to the present time.

high school was built, was Chas. J. Carroll, who was very influential in the erection of the beautiful and massive structure. The board of directors were: Jos. Gleason, President; Patrick Doyne, Secy.; Wm. Kadany, Treas.; Richard Edwards, Daniel Shields. Frank Reilly was the architect.

Since the first call for athletics was issued by Mr. Kirby and Mr. Shantz, the first coaches of the high school, it seems to have re-echoed down through the years. When that first call was heard, a beeline was made for the locker room by some of the best athletes ever produced in the county, and the boys who were to begin the history of athletics at Blythe High.

It was really from these boys that the present day Blythe athletes pick their "ideal" and begin to follow in their footsteps. Succeeding years have produced nearly the same excellent teams every year.

Some of the cups and banners won by Blythe teams were: 1927, Two cups won by Blythe High School, with Jas. B. Nash as coach of the track team at this time; he was also in charge of the championship basketball team in 1927. Wm. Breslin was the coach of the 1928 championship basketball team. A banner was awarded.

1929, Champions of Football, Jack Shields was the coach and Donald O'Leary was the captain. A banner was awarded.

1930, Championship of Schuylkill County Interscholastic League in football. Second place in basketball; the captain was Jos. Stone and the coach Mr. Breslin.

The runners who went to the Penn Relay Race in 1928 were: Ellsworth Richards, First; Albert Michoseff, Second; Paul Devlin, Third; Francis McDonald, Fourth.

Girls Sports

1927, Lost one game out of ten. Miss Doyle was coach and Emily Gay, captain; 1928, Twelve games won out of twelve in which good sportsmanship was shown; Captain Helen Dauchess; 1929, three games lost out of nine, Bessie Coyle, Captain.

Track

1927, Schuylkill Interscholastic Class A Meet, Second Place, 1-2 mile in relay. Second place for the 75 yard dash was won by Bessie Coyle. Third place won by Anna Lileck.

1928, Second place for the 75 yard dash was reached by Bessie Coyle. Third place was won by Anna Lileck. Girls relay secured third place in that year.

Championship Teams

Blythe Township High School teams were basketball and football champions in the Interscholastic League for 1931-32. Geo. Dimmerling was the coach. Blythe won the baseball championship for 1933, with Hy Brubaker as coach.

The coaches of the various athletic teams of Blythe Township were:

Boys' team—Shantz, Kirby, Stewart, Nash, Breslin, Shields, Dimmerling, Brubaker, Reynolds, Messinger.

Girls' team—Misses Doyle, Ryon, Bowers and Fegley.

Extra Curricular Activities

The observance of the present day May festival dates back to early Greek Festivals and Olympics, which were held every four years.

The modern Greek festival in May is one in which the students show their ability in athletics, dancing and music. The program grows out of the students' work in their school courses.

The first May Day of Blythe Twp. was held in May, 1926, and has been continued every year.

Blythe H. S. has succeeded in organizing a band. The first band meeting was held during the middle part of Oct., with Mr. Minnichbach, of Pottsville, as the instructor. At present the membership is about 27.

There are 35 members in the school banking club at the present time.

When the call for debaters was made by Miss Murray, Miss Moore and Mr. Whalen, a number of last year's varsity speakers made their appearance, together with new candidates. Blythe lost one of her star debaters of last year, Jos. Smolsky, through graduation.

The 1934 affirmative team consists of Minnie Berner and Joseph Fink, with Jean Maurer, alternate; while Frances Noonan and James Coleman, with Julia Tumalavage, Alternate, compose the negative team.

Assembly programs are presented each Friday by the various home rooms under the supervision of their sponsors.

The programs aid in breaking the monotony of routine school work. These assemblies are arranged alternately; one week for the Senior High School and the other for Junior High. This arrangement enables everyone to witness the programs.

Music Festival

The glee club, under the supervision of Miss Devine, is composed of a group of sixty students. In the spring of each year, the glee clubs, bands, and orchestras of the various High Schools of the County demonstrate their ability at Lakewood Park. Blythe's glee club is also called upon to sing at Senior High School commencement and other school functions.

Teachers Of Blythe Township

There are 35 teachers for the term of 1933-34, who conduct the educational development of the students.

Supervisors and Special Teachers: Regina E. Devine, Music, Cumbola; John J. Shields, Physical Education, Kaska; Mary E. Fegley, Physical Education, Tremont; Alice V. Heffner, Art Supervision, Centralia; Helen V. Strauss, School Nurse High School Bldg., Cumbola.

High School Building

Raymond T. Gibbons, Principal High School-Biology, Cumbola; Ethel Kunkle, German and Social Science, Tumbling Run; Julia C. Murray, Latin and History, Girardville; Hilda F. Moore, English and French, Mahanoy City; Catherine E. McCarron, English and Spanish, Pottsville; Newton H. Reed, Mathematics, Tamqua; Mary M. Reilly, French and English, Pottsville; Helen M. Bender, Social Science, Shenandoah; Anna M. Cuff, Chemistry-General Science, Girardville; Charles Paulus, Science, Kaska; John Whalen, Social Science-English, Tuscarora; Isabelle I. Franks, Commercial, Cumbola; Stanley Kupchinsky, Commercial, Kaska; Theodore Lileck, Commercial, Kaska; Norman Messinger, Manual Training, Cumbola; Helen Ryan, Domestic Science, Pottsville.

Grade School Teachers

Cumbola: Grades 4-6—John G. Kehlor, Cumbola; Helen R. Carroll, Cumbola; Mary Martin, Silver Creek.

Grades 1-3—Catharine Rigney, Silver Creek; Alice R. Farrell, Kaska; Julia E. Supreme, Cumbola.

Lorraine—John P. Quirk, Cumbola.

Valley Furnace—Anna H. Washe, Cumbola; Agnes G. Edwards, Silver Creek.

Kaska: Grades 4-6—John D. Kemple, Cumbola; Catherine A. Whalen, Cumbola; Anna E. Lewis, Kaska.

Grades 1-3—Josephine McGee, Silver Creek; Rosalie M. Langton, Silver Creek.

Tumbling Run: Grades 1-6—Harry W. Esterly, Cumbola.

Blythe Twp. H. S. belongs to the Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges. Graduates of the High School may enter a college without an examination.

The supervising principals of Blythe have been Chas. Carroll, M. R. Coogan and E. J. Spelyng, who has been in charge of the schools for the past four terms. Prof. Spelyng is a graduate of Pottsville High School, Keystone State Normal School, Penna State College, and Columbia University, N. Y.

The school directors of Blythe Township for 1933-34 are: Thos. Martin, pres.; Jas. D. Lewis, vice-pres.; Peter Lilek, secy.; Anthony Masonis, treas., and John A. Carroll, M. D.

Religious Organizations

The date of the first preaching in Blythe is not recorded. The Lutheran and Presbyterian denominations held meetings at an early date at Middleport. In 1821, we find them purchasing land from Jacob Stahl. A small church was built on a portion of the land; the rest was used for burial purposes. In 1852, the Presbyterians built a stone church; later an interest in the property was sold to the Lutherans.

The first church at New Phila. was the Lutheran church, built in 1852. Rev. Mr. Glenn, who lived at Tamaqua was the first pastor. Early Methodist preaching was irregular. The first salaried Methodist preacher was Rev. John Jones. Rev. Jas. Neil, the first operator at Neil's Hill, and Thos. Niles, two other operators, assumed the chief burden of the preacher's salary for a time. The number of Methodists having greatly increased by 1855 in the valley east and west from New Phila., they were constituted a separate charge. Services were held at New Phila., and in

the school houses at Middleport, Big Vein, now called Kaska, and Tucker's Hill.

The first Primitive Methodist preacher who held meetings in New Phila., was Wm. Donaldson, who held services in Square Barlow's stone tavern. At Tucker Hill under the leadership of John J. Dovey, a Primitive Methodist church was organized by the Greene and Beach families, and others.

Before 1827, the Catholics of the Schuylkill Valley were regularly attended by the priests who rode on horseback through the future towns of Cumbola, New Phila., and Middleport. In November, 1867, the Catholics in the Schuylkill Valley growing so numerous, it was considered advisable by the authorities of the Diocese of Phila., to erect a new parish at New Phila.

A temporary building was procured and a pastor, Rev. John A. Loughran, was appointed. Owing to the dullness of the times and the abandonment of many enterprises in the coal industry, the congregation was unable to erect a church. Dec. 19, 1880, the old building was destroyed by fire. On the same site, there was erected a beautiful church which is in service at present. The parish is known as the Holy Family Roman Catholic, and the present pastor, Rev. Father Francis M. Ward, was appointed rector, May 11, 1911.

During 1893, the Lithuanians and Polish people began to settle in the Township in large numbers. They attended the Holy Family Roman Catholic Church. Finding the church too small to accommodate them, these people secured Rev. Father W. V. Matulaitis, who was stationed at Minersville, to hold services for them in the School Building, at New Phila. In 1896, the congregation erected a small building which was used as a place of worship until 1901, when an

attractive and commodious church was built, known as the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church. The present pastor is Rev. Father Stanley Masuras.

The first Catholic Church in Cumbola was established by the Polish congregation. Since 1907, a committee of active residents had been planning to erect a church, but their plans did not materialize until 1908. Owing to financial reasons, no contractor could be employed; consequently, the men labored day after day, constructing this house of worship so long awaited.

The first regular pastor was Rev. Father Fruk; and in later years, he was succeeded by Rev. Father Zebura. In the year 1927, the church, which was not very strongly built, was razed and a new one erected. The building of this church brought about great changes. Instead of an inconvenient little log church, a brick structure was set up. Both the church and parochial school are moderately equipped and attended by a large majority of other nationalities, as well as Polish.

It is situated on the main highway in Cumbola. The present pastor is Rev. Father S. S. Krystiniak.

The first Union Sunday School of Kaska was organized in 1919 by a group of active residents. This school continued until the spring of 1921 under the guidance of Rev. Mr. Appleton. The first meeting of the present school, which was organized in June, 1923, was held in the community hall. In Feb., 1926, Mrs. Jas. S. Miller was elected superintendent. It was about this time that the idea of building a chapel assumed definite form and everyone united his efforts toward this one end. To no one person can the credit of this building be given for everyone did his part faithfully and

well. The present membership of the school is 107.

The Methodist Episcopal Church at Cumbola was built in 1895 by the congregation. The first minister was Rev. Mr. Main. Two of the missionairies were Miss Mary Harbda and Miss Louise Vaneka of Czechoslovakia. The present minister is Rev. Guy H. Everly.

Industrial Developments

The presence of coal in the territory now known as Blythe was known at a very early day, and it would be impossible to state when or by whom the first opening was made. The first notable coal operation in Blythe was on the Mammoth vein at Silver Creek. An early operator was S. Chadwick, some time after 1840.

A man named McNeil opened the Primrose vein. Rev. Jas. Neil sunk a slope in 1849, and the first wagon load of coal was hoisted from it by Richard Winlack in the Fall of 1856. Later Mr. Neil took Benj. Milnes into partnership in the enterprise, which was abandoned after eight years. As early as 1852 or 1853, a man named Dodson had an opening in the small red ash vein overlying the Seven-foot. It has long been abandoned.

In the early days of active coal mining in the township, the name of Caleb Parker was well known, and it is remembered by nearly every old inhabitant. He began operations on the Primrose vein, on the second dip, at Valley Furnace, a little to the left of the turnpike, above the old furnace site. He constructed a dam on Silver Creek and propelled his machinery by water power. This opening was on the Glenworth tract, owned then by Bast and Thompson. Capwell and Dovey became operators there. Enoch McGinnes was a later operator. Maize, Miller and Co. operated this colliery during the war

and were succeeded by A. Focht and Co., from whose hands the colliery reverted to land owners. Under the direction of Gideon Bast, Wm. Harmon, Supt., made underground borings which proved the Mammoth vein to possess a good quality of coal. Bast and Thompson sold out to the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Co., who operated the colliery for some time. It was abandoned later on.

About a mile north of the Middleport colliery was an abandoned opening in the Mammoth vein. This is east from Silver Creek about a mile and a half. It was early operated by several successive operators. Rogers, Sinnockson and Co. operated it many years under the superintendency of Francis Daniels. About 1860, it passed into the possession of the Kaska William Coal Co. The vein took fire, and after several futile attempts to extinguish it, the colliery was dismantled and abandoned. The property is now owned by the Alliance Coal Co. About a mile east from Kaska William, as this locality is called, an opening was made on the Wood and Abbot property by a Mr. Whitfield, who drove two long tunnels, one cutting the red-ash, and one the Mammoth vein. He did a small business for a time, and abandoned the opening prior to 1855.

In 1862, Murray, Winlack and Randall sunk a slope on the Primrose vein to a depth of one hundred yards, and began to excavate a tunnel at the bottom of the slope to cut the white-ash vein, but before reaching this, they were obliged to abandon it, on account of a depression in the price of coal, which rendered the enterprise unprofitable. The working was abandoned in 1865, and the property is now owned by the P. & R. C. & I. Co. About a mile east of Middleport, Pliny Fish opened a colliery, which drew its product from the Skidmore vein, and worked it successfully and

profitably for a time, in consequence of it yielding an excellent quality of anthracite. Some time between 1860 and 1865, he sold out to Henry Gueiterman, who abandoned the colliery some time ago, after working it with considerable success.

The central portion of the township, east and west, is in the coal belt of the first coal field in the Schuylkill District. This section of the county was the first to send its coal products to the ports near Phila. Many fortunes have been made and lost in the mining operations of Blythe Twp. Almost immeasurable deposits of anthracite underlie the surface of the Township.

The earliest manufacturing enterprise in Blythe Township was the Valley Furnace, near Silver Creek, just north of New Phila.; and at that point centered the small laboring population of the Township. The furnace was built as early as 1804 or 1805 by Rev. F. W. Geisenheimer and Co. Mr. Geisenheimer was a New Yorker, and a man of much scientific knowledge. The furnace was a primitive affair in the beginning, but under the direction of Mr. Geisenheimer it was improved from year to year. In 1836, he made at the Valley Furnace, with the assistance of Abraham Pott, an effort so triumphant as to enable him to obtain the iron separate from the cinder. It is stated that Mr. Geisenheimer made the first anthracite iron with the coal blast, and that the more efficient hot blast was introduced from England at a later date. During the summer of 1836, Governor Ritner visited Valley Furnace and was much gratified with what he saw of the successful new process in iron manufacture. Later the furnace was leased to other parties until operations ceased because of the inefficiency of the furnace and of the construction of similar undertakings on a much larger scale nearby.

The coal industry has been the main source upon which the life of Blythe Twp. depends.

Noted Persons of Blythe Township

Chas. J. Carroll made an excellent record in his long connection with the public schools of Schuylkill Co. His work will stand as one of the most efficient units which have co-operated in the furtherance of educational progress in the county.

He was born in Blythe Twp., May 20, 1863. He attended public school at Port Carbon. When a boy he began mine work, but continued his studies. Subsequently, he taught two terms at the Tumbling Run School, and one term at Tucker Hill School and several terms in other schools of the township. In 1911, Mr. Carroll was elected Supervising Principal of the township schools. He was one of the leaders in the erection of the present High School Building. He died in 1923.

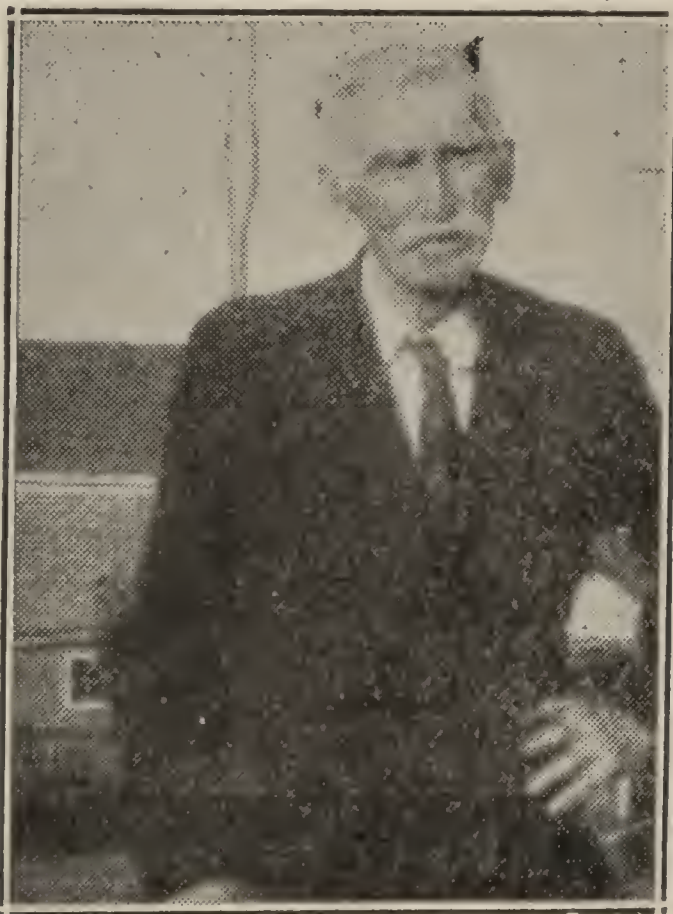
Edw. V. Doyle, a prominent attorney of Pottsville, was born in Cumbola, Schuylkill County, March 9, 1878. When he was eighteen years old, he settled near Five Points, in E. Norwegian Twp., where for some time, he was occupied in mining. He then engaged in boating on the Schuylkill Canal, and later became a dealer in general merchandise at Cumbola, where he was the first postmaster, holding this office until his death which occurred in 1894. His daughter succeeded him and served as postmistress until 1906, when she resigned on account of her health.

Edw. V. Doyle, his son, was educated in the schools of Cumbola and Palo Alto, and in 1896 he taught school. He attended Villanova College, spent five years there, graduating in 1902 with the degree of Master of Arts. He also studied law and was engaged in practice with his preceptor. In the spring of 1906, he

was elected to the office of Justice of the Peace for Blythe Township with his office located at Cumbola. He died in 1932.

Michael J. Kenna was born in Cumbola, April 15, 1860. He attended the schools of Blythe, where he acquired a practical education. He learned the shoemaker's trade with his father and followed that occupation. Mr. Kenna was a Democrat and took a commendable interest in advancing interests of his party's principles. He served as tax collector for three wears and was a member of the school board for six years. He died in 1933.

Daniel Kemple was born in Eagle Hill, in 1855. He started to work at the Eagle Hill Breaker at the age of eight years, and continued to work there for 55 years. He helped to construct the breaker and also saw it abandoned 65 years afterwards. Mr.



DANIEL KEMPLE

Who was employed at the Eagle Hill breaker for 55 years and is living at Cumbola.

Kemple is now retired and is at present living with his sons and daughters at Cumbola.

Michael V. Stiles of Cumbola is well known as a business man and local official. He was a former tax collector of Blythe Township. He took a keen interest in local affairs and for a time held the office of township clerk. He was born July 30, 1874, in Cumbola, where he had such advantages as the public school afforded. He is at present living in the same community.

Alex Devine was one of the leading educators of Blythe Township. His efficiency was due not only to a natural adaptability but also to a devotion to the profession of teaching. He was born in Cumbola, where he had charge of the public schools. He received his preliminary education in the public schools of that township. He then attended the State Normal School at Kutztown, where he fitted himself especially for the profession. He began his teaching career in the public school, where he was employed for six years. Mr. Devine also served as principal of Cumbola public school. At the present time he is a letter carrier of Pottsville.

Patrick F. Devine, father of Alex Devine, was reared in Blythe Township from the age of four years, and received his education in the public schools and at the State Normal School at Kutztown. He followed teaching as a career for thirty-three years, as principal of the public schools of Blythe Township. He died Oct. 6, 1892, at the age of 54.

Philip Wagner was the oldest resident of Tumbling Run for many years. He was born in Russia, Germany; Sept. 6, 1839. He migrated to America in 1845 with his parents. After the long voyage in a sailing vessel, which lasted thirty-nine days, they landed at Phila., and soon after arrived at Pottsville. Two years

later they moved to Kaska. Here he acquired a little education, his advantages were limited. At an early age he began picking slate at the Kaska Colliery. In 1863, he moved to Tumbling Run, where he purchased forty-three acres of land, which was almost covered with brush and forests. He devoted much time to clearing and cultivating the land during the summer, and mining coal in the winter. He remained there for twenty-two years. Mr. Wagner, later, devoted his attention entirely to farming.

He was a resident of Blythe Township for more than eighty years. He held the office of school director in this township for twenty-four years. He died in April, 1931, at the age of 91.

Donald Glover, Dist. Supt. of the Alliance District of the Lehigh Navi-



MR. AND MRS. PHILIP WAGNER
Aged Residents of Blythe Township
who have witnessed many changes
come to pass.

gation Coal Co., died suddenly at his home, Nov. 10, 1933. He was one of the most widely known coal company officials in the region, and was affiliated with the L. N. C. Co. for the past 30 years.

He was born and reared in Pottsville, a son of the late Robert and Sue Glover, and was graduated from the Pottsville High School.

He was affiliated with the Girard Estate on the engineering corps for a year before accepting a position with the L. N. C. Co., as an engineer.

His subsequent positions were superintendent of the Tamaqua Colliery, of the Lansford Colliery, and then of the Alliance Colliery, his position as district superintendent becoming effective six years ago. Aside from his duties as superintendent, he was interested in welfare work in the community. He was also widely known in Republican political circles.

He was president of the Schuylkill Valley Welfare Assn.; Supt. of the Kaska Union Sunday School; a mem-

ber of the Red Cross Board; a director of the Silver Creek Bank at New Phila.; president of the Kaska Parent-Teachers Assn., in which he took an active interest in encouraging educational developments, and was a member of the English Congregational Church at Lansford.

Adam Mackey, Sr., was born in the home formerly used for the old post-office in Cumbola, in 1859. He has been a resident of this community for the past seventy-four years. At the age of twelve, Adam Mackey worked in a breaker, picking slate. This was operated by Thomas Ryan, who also had charge of the old stage road running between Cumbola and Port Carbon.

When Mr. Hubley, who, as the first resident of Cumbola, moved to another section, his home and farm were occupied by Daniel Mackey, grandfather of Adam Mackey. The former was the second resident of Cumbola. Eagle Hill then consisted of ten log houses and seven stone houses.



Cass Named For Foreign Diplomat

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper"* February 20-23, 1934)

The history of Cass Township was compiled by the students under the supervision of Miss Loretto Brady.

The committee wishes to acknowledge contributions from the following: Pottsville Free Public Library, Pottsville Daily Republican, Shenandoah Herald of 1874, Historical Society of Schuylkill County, Vols. 1 and 2; "Lincoln and Men of War Time," by A. K. McClure; World War records from E. L. Clifford; Minutes of Forrestville Literary Society, 1870-1876; Tax Duplicates 1852-1870; Reading Co. office, Pottsville; Classes of 1934 and 1935, Cass Township High School; Lytle Coal Co., Primrose; Mrs. Philip Clarke, J. F. Moore, Samuel Anns, Martin Reynolds, Jas. Rowlands, Joe Lynch, Jas. Curran, Mrs. Thos. Patten, Mrs. Chas. Trenosky and Andrew Walinsky.

A dispute between two groups of people occupying Branch Township led to the creation of Cass Township in 1848, during the political campaign of General Zachary Taylor and Millard Fillmore. Lewis Cass, minister to France in 1836, United States Senator in 1845, and a nominee for the Presidency in 1848 found supporters in this region and in his honor the new township was named.

The Township was later subdivided and in 1855 part of the original territory helped to form Foster, and in 1857 another portion was given to Reilly.

Cass Township is surrounded by Butler, New Castle, Norwegian, Minersville Borough, Branch, Reilly and Foster Townships.

The Township is divided into four precincts—North, South, South East and South West—each with its own polling place.

Valuation

The assessed valuation of Branch Township at the time the separation took place was \$734,060, with assets amounting to \$1,566.74 and liabilities

of \$842.92. Of these amounts there was allotted to the newly formed Cass Township as a result of the partition the following: Valuation \$284,923; Assets \$280.95. The final adjustment regarding the creation of the new township was made at the home of John Mohan, November 23, 1861, when Daniel Dillman, Treasurer of Branch Township, paid to Martin Foley, Treasurer of Cass Township, \$280.95. The other members of the Joint Committee were Robert R. Bennett, Chairman; W. H. Hopkins, Secretary, and Robert Patten.

The assessed valuation of real estate of Cass Township School District for 1932-33 is as follows: Valuation Real Estate and Occupation, \$3,573,213; Valuation of Occupation, \$71,550; Valuation Real Estate, \$3,501,663; Valuation of Unseated Lands, \$295,092; Total Valuation Real Estate and Unseated Land, \$3,796,755; Assessed Valuation "Unseated" Real Estate in hands of County Commissioner, \$19,127; Number of Taxables, 1,946; Assessed Valuation of Taxable Property (1931-32), \$3,883,984; Rate of Reimbursement by State on Teach-

ers' Minimum Salary, 60%; State Appropriation Cass Township—Third Class School District, 63 teachers, \$37,128; State Appropriation for Transportation, \$4,000.

1856 Superintendent's Report

The following is gleaned from County Superintendent Krewson's report of 1856:

Cass: Large and thickly populated—schools very large. One school was taken from it by Foster in 1856 and one by Reilly in 1857. Two new frame houses in process of erection are needed, and if finished throughout in furniture, etc., in the same style which thus far characterizes the work will be a creditable improvement to the district. Scarcity of books has been an obstacle to more rapid progress of pupils. Out to grade some of her schools.

In 1863, according to records from the Superintendent's office, there were 10 schools in the district—term was 10 months, 15 male teachers and one female. Average salary of male teacher was \$38.38, and average salary per month for female teacher was \$20. The number of pupils enrolled was 1,932. The average attendance was 834. Cost per pupil per month was 32c—mills levied was 10. Expenditures for instruction, fuel and physical features \$6,316.

Physical Features

The Township is made up of many little villages such as Thomaston, Mackeysburg, Duncott, Heckscherville, Coal Castle, Primrose, Jonestown, Schaeffer's Hill, Black Heath, Forestville, Woodside, Greenfields and a small section of Phoenix Park.

The Township is exceedingly rugged and mountainous—the ridges formed by Broad and Sharp mountains sweep with expanded surface upon its crest in the northern part, while Mine Hill extends from west to east across the section onward through other townships. South of this continuous elevation are found many spurs, whose slope and inclination maintain a general tendency

parallel with the larger range. The mountains are rich in coal deposits.

In the southern part of the Township, early settlers in turning over the soil found arrow heads, spear heads, stone hatchets, pottery, bowls, and other relics; although there is no definite information that this township was the home, or dwelling place, of any one tribe, the "material remains" lead us to believe it was frequented by numerous bands of roving Indians.

The soil of the Township was rough and heavily timbered—oak, chestnut, pine, hickory, birch, spruce, fir and maple were plentiful; the original settlers found ample material for the building of their log cabins. The soil offered no inducement for permanent homes and agriculture was impossible.

The streams which trickled down the mountain sides were filled with edible fish. A small stream, issuing from eastern part of Foster Twp. gathering as it ripples along, gradually expands into a large stream, winding its way over boulder, through ravine, tossing over rocks and stones, through deep chasms provided a safe retreat for nature lovers. Access to this retreat was gained through a densely rugged and rough mountain side, by a winding path lined on each side by streams of clear, cool water and flowers of brilliant hue. For many years it was the favored haunt of the many. Today its beauty is somewhat dimmed for the height of the Falls has been cut down.

No longer does the stream murmur on its way uninterrupted, for in 1897 the Crystal Water Company began the construction of the Crystal Water Dam and finished it in 1898. The capacity of the Dam is 60,000,000 gallons, and at the present time it supplies a territory of 25 miles of pipe line ranging in size from 2 in. to 14 in. and covering an investment of approximately \$200,000. At the present time (1933) the consumption is

about 1,500,000 gallons every 24 hours, supplying about 80% of the population of Cass Township in addition to all the collieries located in the township.

The Minersville Water Co. are owners of Sammy's Dam, located in Heckscherville.

Population

The nationalities found in the Township are: Irish, Welsh, Scotch, Polish, Lithuanian, Greek and Italian.

The population of Cass Township in 1870 was 4621 people, of this number 972 were immigrants. In 1880 the population was 3004, and in 1890 it was 2642. According to the 1930 census there are 5472 people in the township.

In 1852, an old tax duplicate says there were thirteen men in the Township who were the proud possessors of watches. Two of the 13, Richard Heckscher and William Payne had gold watches; all the others were silver. The tax was one dollar. The total amount of the duplicate in seated lands was \$2894.85 and unseated lands, \$448.26—total \$3253.11. This same duplicate says that the unseated land of the Forestville Improvement Co. was valued at \$17 20 per acre.

The first settler in Cass Township was a man by the name of Alspach, who located on Primrose Hill, where the gas station now stands. The cherry trees found in the "Lane" and on top of the hill were originally the property of Mr. Alspach, who migrated from Berks County. A Mr. Krause built the first cabin about one-half mile south of Alspach's clearing; very little is known about him.

Abraham Hoch, Jacob Kantner, and Peter Kokran were among the early settlers; and Hoch's house, or cabin, stood where the Lytle Office now stands. At the foot of the hill in what is known as Pattens Valley (named for its earliest set-

tlar, Robert Patten) a saw-mill and ruins of stone shacks were evidence of earlier occupancy.

Forestville, the little village at the beginning of the stream of water in Forestville was named in honor of Charles de Forest, an Alsatian and head of the Forestville Improvement Co. Officials of this Company made their homes in Woodside, a small hamlet near Forestville, noted for its aristocracy. Here dwelt Chas. de Forest, David Glover, Charles Heckscher. Mr. Heckscher became the owner of the lands in this basin as early as 1831, and secured the services of Mr. Chapman to explore for coal. Associated with Mr. Heckscher was Wm. Payne, who later leased the place from Forestville Improvement Co. Mr. de Forest brought to Woodside, Oliver Pretorius, a German Alsatian, who was employed by de Forest as a wood ranger. Mr. Pretorius specialized in trees and brought to this region from New York the seedlings of the willow and the apple-shade as well as fruit trees. A plot of ground in Woodside, known as Forester's Field, still stands and bears evidence of this specialization. The first school house, built of stone, still stands in Woodside.

Mining Industry

As the land could not be used for agriculture, the early settlers in order to get a livelihood transferred the land to people who were interested in mining.

In 1830, the business interest was mining. Michael Sands, Abraham Steeper, Frank Daniels and James Daniels were living in the vicinity of Coal Castle at this time. Mining began in Cass Township on the Black Heath Vein, in 1831. The first coal breaker was built at Black Heath. This breaker prepared coal

for shipment. A tunnel was driven for Isaac Stauffer by Abraham Hock. A colliery was erected and leased by John Womer. The coal was hauled over Mine Hill and Sch. Haven Railroad to Sch. Haven, then by canal to Philadelphia. At this time coal sold for \$1.75 and \$2.00 per ton. After three years the mine changed hands and the operators were Heilner and Bass, until 1853, when new openings occurred. A. M. Wood operated for the P. & R. C. & I. Co. The Black Valley Slope, sunk by Mr. Heilner, was operated by Thomas Shollenberger until 1855.

The Diamond Coal Co. built a colliery in Forestville. It was opened by Mr. Hock in 1840, who later sold it to Johannes Cockill before he had shipped any coal.

Between 1831-32, a tunnel known as the Black Heath Tunnel was excavated. It was located about a quarter of a mile from the Black Valley slope. The operator of the venture was Dr. Steinberg. He was succeeded by Jacob Serrill and Wm. Heilner, until 1852; to be followed by Richard Heckscher and Co., who erected a breaker on top of the mountain to which the coal was carried from the mine over a "self-acting plane." The mines fell into the hands of the New York and Schuylkill Coal Co., who operated the colliery from 1865 to 1868. It was abandoned and the breaker later burned. In 1842, Mackey's Colliery, up the Heckscherville Valley, was operated by Wyncoop and Beatty. In 1852, Miller was ready to ship coal from the Live Oak colliery (Mine Hill Gap). A new colliery was opened in the same year at Heckscherville. Jones and Straub sank a slope at Mine Hill Gap, and John McGinness sank one on Broad Mountain in Heckscherville Valley.

Dolbin and Rogers sank a slope in Forestville. A colliery was opened on the Kanter Vein, in 1833, by Wann and Reese Davis; later this passed into the possession of M. G. and P. Heilner, who operated until 1853, when it was purchased by the P. & R. C. & I. Co. A drift was driven on the Primrose Vein operated by Dr. Steinberg. Later on this vein a slope was sunk by Richard Kear, who later built a breaker and operated it until 1869, when he died. His heirs operated it until 1869, when it filled with water and was abandoned. In 1869, a slope and colliery was made at Woodside, in the immediate vicinity of Forestville, by John Wadlinger, Esquire and others. The Black Heath colliery, situated at Mt. Pleasant (Taylorsville) on the estate of the York and Schuylkill Co., had been in operation until 1874.

It was worked by John McGinness for a considerable time, but was abandoned by him through the misfortune of a crush in one of his gangways. T. H. Schollenberger, Esquire, afterwards drained the water and sank a new lift and commenced operating in 1870 using improved machinery and facilities not previously applied to that opening. In 1876 the breaker was burned. There were many small workings; the out-croppings were operated by Dolbin and Rogers, Robert Patten, Thos. Lloyd and Wm. Britton.

The Thomaston Shaft was sunk by Borda (Woodside) driving a tunnel through the mountains over the Heckscherville Valley; while Coleman sank the Diamond Slope 300 feet deep at Oak Hill. In 1857, Garner and Campion had a lease on Wolfe Creek, and in 1859 two slopes were sunk by Borda in Heckscherville.

In 1864, the Forestville Improvement Co. was organized by Charles de Forest and a group of coal operators. Their colliery was located in Forestville. In 1840 Cockills' Drift was sunk in the rear of what is now the Murphy home.

The Thomaston Colliery was opened in 1848 by Chas. Heckscher and Co. The first breaker had a capacity of 300 tons per day, the shaft 90 yards deep, tapping the Diamond, Crosby, and New Veins. From 1866 to 1873, the Manhattan Coal Co. worked the collieries and shafts on their land. These collieries were superintended by David Glover, Esquire, and operated by Heckscher and Co. Mr. Glover, a man of great practical knowledge and experience, lost his life in pursuit of his duties.

The Phoenix Colliery No. 3 was opened in 1862. It was operated by Lloyd and Glover. They drove a gangway into the present No. 3 slope. This colliery later passed into the hands of the P. & R. C. & I. Co., in 1877, and continued under their operation until 1928. Among the men in charge were P. F. Dev-ers, John Brown, Eckert Troutman; other names familiar to residents are Thos. Murphy, Frank Kessler, F. B. Reilly, Mike Murphy, James Brown, John Doyle, Cavanaugh Brothers, Purcells, Barney King and many others. In 1928, the colliery was temporarily closed for several weeks, reopened and then closed; after two years it was completely dismantled and what remained was burned down. About 500 men were thrown out of work. Men of experience say the average thickness of the vein of coal in this slope is 6 feet. Today a few rails, here and there, a concrete abutment, a concrete wash-house, its windows broken, is all that is left of what at one time was the busiest spot in

Schuylkill County. The breaker of this colliery was located in Cass Township while the stables were in Branch Township-Phoenix Park.

The present Lytle Colliery was at one time known as the John Hosie, or the "Hosies." Many of the older residents and employees speak of it as Hosies today.

Among the first men who worked there were Edward Gavin and Jas. McKeown of Jonestown, and Mike Burke of Primrose. The latter was one of the first men to come in contact with the gun-boat or self-dumping iron car—a novelty in this section. This was used to convey the coal from the mines to the newly erected breaker located between Black Heath and Forestville.

The present site of the Lytle Coal Breaker, the main office, superintendent's home and the mansion was purchased from Stephen Jones, one of the oldest settlers of Black Heath. The man responsible for the transaction was Dr. B. C. Guilden, a leading physician of Minersville.

About 1889, Mr. Hosie, a Scranton capitalist, together with Messrs. Bowers, Davidson, Meredith, Stuart, and Bradley took up residence in Primrose. Mr. Hosie lived in a house formerly occupied by Stephen Jones and located near the present site of the Lytle Office. The other men found homes throughout Forestville, Primrose, and Woodside. One of the first developments was the sinking of No. 1 and No. 2 slopes on the Primrose Vein, this vein running from 8 to 14 feet in thickness. They then drove a tunnel from No. 2 level on the Primrose vein to cut the Diamond Vein and started a gangway west on the Primrose Vein. It was during this development, while the colliery was still in its infancy, that occurred one of the greatest disasters in the history of the col-

liery. In 1892, while driving west on the Primrose Vein, the miners on the second level drilled into an unmapped body of water (Cockills' Drift) which rushed in with such terrific force that the men, 13 in number could not escape. Thos. Buggy, Jonestown; Wm. Zerbey, of Llewellyn, seven Italians and a French contractor, Sabella by name, were among those drowned. Jas. Dolbin (of the Dolbin Bottling Works today) of Forestville, and Geo. Purcell, of Jonestown, had a miraculous escape. The Italians and the Frenchman worked together; their bodies were recovered and all are buried together in St. Vincent's Graveyard in Minersville.

The Primrose Vein was developed to the 3rd and 4th level. Scott and King, rock contractors, drove a tunnel from the Primrose Vein north to cut the Holmes, White Ash, Middle Bench, Black Heath, Skidmore and Buck Mountain Veins. They also drilled for the Lykens Valley Vein, which has never been worked in this basin.

Under the new management of the Lytle Coal Company, who took over the Hosie, the Lytle shaft was sunk. This shaft, one of the deepest in the Anthracite region, reaches a depth of 1670 feet. It cuts all the coal seams from the Tracy to the Primrose Vein, opening one of the finest basins to be found anywhere in the coal belt.

In 1905, the first modern breaker went into operation, known as the new or No. 2 breaker, a part of the new or No. 2 colliery controlled by a separate group of stockholders—some of whom were partly affiliated with the original group under the management of Robert Quinn of Pottsville. Mr. Quinn had begun as a transit man to become manager of the Susquehanna Coal Company.

Under the regime of D. V. Randal, working for the Susquehanna Coal Company, the old system of dipping the water out of the mines was abandoned and a more improved method of steam pumps was installed. A pump was capable of handling 3000 gallons of water per minute; many times the wet season caused the colliery to remain idle for a few days until the water would subside. Now, through the pumps, the colliery could work the whole year.

The Susquehanna Coal Co. operated the Lytle and it merged with a company known as the Susquehanna Collieries Co., operators of Hard and Soft Coal, Iron and Gold Mines. Among the officials were Mr. Ireland, President; Mr. Grant, Vice President; Mr. Quinn, Manager; Wm. Williams, Superintendent; John Bevan, Inside Foreman, and Clinton Lytle, Outside Foreman.

Under this management, one of the greatest experiments in the combustion of gases contained in anthracite was made. What is generally known as "Hog Island" was built to utilize the waste on unsalable coal, commonly called "slush," the disposal of which created a problem for all coal companies. The town of Minersville brought suit in county courts for damages done by the slush washed from the different operations into the creeks, blocking the sewers and causing damages to all low properties.

The disposal had been a huge item in the cost of producing anthracite. A process, not only for disposing of slush, but also to form fuel was offered. This would permit the coal companies to sell the smaller sizes of coal—comprising rice, buckwheat, and barley. This not only meant a double saving but also the elimination of slush dams and damage to

properties. The experiment cost upwards of \$250,000.

At the present time, the plant (Hog Island) is no longer in operation. The machinery is silent. The colliery has been closed down for several months. A few days and a few men, a handful in comparison to the many once employed, are being used to keep the colliery in readiness for the better days ahead to which the miners hopefully look.

Jonestown

Jonestown receives its name from the numerous families of Joneses, of Welsh descent; the family of Stephen Jones settled here about 1858; some families of that name were here earlier.

In a shady ravine is found "Powell's Well," today a swimming pool. On the hillside stands a stone and frame dwelling once occupied by Michael Groody, one of the earlier teachers of the Township.

Primrose

Black Heath and Primrose get their names from the Black Heath and Primrose veins, important layers of coal in this region.

Pine Knot Colliery—Heckscherville.

Pine Knot Colliery in the Heckscherville Valley is owned by the P. & R. C. & I. Company. The first shaft, known as No. 1, was opened in 1900, and reached a depth of 1400 feet. Shaft No. 2, opened about five years later, was used as the principal outlet for coal until the abandonment of the colliery early in 1933. This operation has been the major and almost the only industry in this valley for the past 25 years, because of its gradual absorption of all the smaller Reading operations formerly operated under the names of Glen Dower, Richardson, and Thomaston Collieries.

Three strippings north of Pine Knot and two west of it were started about 1925, but they, too, like the under-ground workings have ceased to operate until now, in the year 1934, we find these extensive workings flooded with water; and the Heckscherville Valley, five miles long, one mile wide, and a depth, in places of one-fourth of a mile, is a huge under-ground lake, while on the surface above are found the humble homes of the former employes, who await some sign of resumption.

In 1856, a resolution passed by the Cass Township School Board says "There shall be built a new school house, two stories high to accommodate two teachers." Another action by the Board on this date authorizes the payment of teachers' salaries as follows: James Pearse, \$15; James Knowles, \$15; Thos. Fogarty, \$10; Patrick McGuire, \$10; Patrick Gallagher, \$5; Samuel Clarkson, \$12; Jas. Mohan, \$10; Mike Groody, \$5, and Jeremiah Cooks, \$5.

While the names connected with the history of the Township at the time of its formation indicate that the early settlers were German, an old tax duplicate of the year 1852 and the above named from an old minute book of that time fixes the Irish immigration into this locality at about 1850.

A Literary Club

About 1870 there was organized in Forrestville a Literary Club. The by-laws and rules of order of the Forrestville Literary Society had as its aim the promotion of all classes of the community. The Constitution was based upon the parliamentary laws observed and adopted by the W. B. A. of Schuylkill County. A Preamble and 14 Articles were in the Constitution while the by-laws consisted of seven articles.

The first meeting was held in Forrestville School House, where the club was organized, with Jas. T. Kelly, President; Wm. Mealy, Vice President; M. C. Butler, Secy.; J. Rowe, Assistant Secy.; and J. Griffiths, Treas. Among the questions debated by members of this club were "Resolved: That suspension is a benefit;" "Resolved, That the Professions Offer a better opening to a young man than Mercantile and Mechanical pursuits." Among the able debaters were: Philip Clark, D. J. McCarthy, Jim Lynch, Larry Butler, A. J. Shortall, Jas. Butler, Robert Patten, Terrence O'Connor and Hugh Gordon.

From the minutes, we learn that the programs of this organization consisted of readings, poems, dialogues, and closed with a debate. After the question had been discussed pro and con by teams, it was then given over to general debate. The last secretary of the organization was A. J. Shortall.

The Forrestville Fire Co.

The Forrestville Fire Company was organized less than three years ago, receiving its charter in January, 1931, with a membership of 40. At the present time the membership is 75. After the company was organized, donations were secured from the people of Forrestville, the Buck Run Coal Co., the Lytle Coal Co., and the officials of Cass Township, to purchase equipment. A fire truck and 800 ft. of hose were secured.

Having no place to keep the truck, the School Board of Cass Township gave the company the use of the basement of the Forrestville School. Through the courtesy and kindness of the Forrestville Band they were allowed the use of their hall for meeting purposes. Realizing that the generosity of the School Board and the Band were being imposed upon, the company decided to make plans

for its own building. This was begun by the Lytle Coal Co. granting them a plot of ground centrally located. Mr. Quandt, a lumber dealer of Minersville, gave the company the permission to order all the building materials necessary for the erection of a "Fire House," the payment for the material to be made when funds were secured. In the summer of 1932, the unemployed men of the village worked without compensation for their services in the erection of the new building. Ground was broken by Samuel Anns, one of the oldest members of the Fire Co., a prominent citizen of Cass Township.

After three months the men were rewarded for their work and a building 50 ft. long and 30 ft. wide was constructed of concrete. The building at this writing has been paid for; the small fire truck that had been purchased proved inadequate and a new truck was purchased from the Hahn Motor Company of Hamburg, Pennsylvania. It is fully equipped with all modern devices.

The officers of the company are as follows (1933): President, Edw. Gleason; Vice Pres., Frank Beretsky; Recording Sec., John Reilly; Financial Sec., Samuel Anns; Fire Chief, Jas. Rowlands; Asst. Fire Chief, Harvey Brennan; Chief Chauffeur, Stewart Rowlands; Assistants, Steve Demsko, Thos. Brown, Steve Dempsher, Geo. Honnage, Felix Wentz; Trustees, Thos. Tracey, Wm. Tracey, George Oakell, Frank Beretsky, John Jones.

Forrestville Cornet Band

Forrestville Band was organized as a Piccolo Band in the early seventies, meeting in one of the company houses in Woodside. At that time there were about forty double blocks there. The first teacher was Joseph Rutledge from Rohersville, now Buck Run. Some of the first members were: Jas. Lynch, Francis Reilly, Jas. Morgan,

Thos. Nolan, Jas. Connors, Edw. Tobin, Hughie Gordon, and Jas. Tracey.

In the year 1879, they reorganized as a cornet band, meeting in Forrestville in a house at the foot of Woodside Hill. The first president of the organization was Frank Gordon and the secretary was Morgan E. Jones.

In Feb. 1883, they received their charter, with the following men as charter members and officers: President, Frank Gordon; Treasurer, Wm. Dormer; Secretary, Edw. J. Gleason; Vice President, Jas. Tracey; Jake Anns, Daniel McGeary, Lawrence Longergan, Jas. Purcell, Jas. Brennan. Mortimore Langton, Wm. Roudenbush, Francis Reilly, Wm. Anns, Patrick Moore, Will J. Dormer, Danny Farley, Jas. Dormer, Thos. Nevils and Patrick Brennan.

In 1890 the Forrestville Stone School House was used as a meeting place. The school was given over to the Band May 11, 1895, by the Cass Township School Board. In June 1895, Samuel Anns took over the leadership of the Band and has ably held the position up to the present time.

In 1911, Mr. Anns' services were given to the Minersville Cornet Band and during his absence Patrick Gleason, a capable member, took over the baton until Mr. Anns' return.

At the present time there are thirty members in the band.

About 1906-08, Forrestville was granted a post office, in the McGeary Home. It was known as the "Pershing Post Office." The Honorable Jas. E. Brennan secured it through the aid of Judge Pershing of Pottsville. For several years it rendered very efficient service, until the Rural Mail Route was established. The first delivery throughout the township was made by Benj. Dolbin, later the work was done by Frank Brennan. The mail was secured from Minersville. About 1925 the route changed, and the Rural mail is now secured in

Pottsville and distributed by auto throughout the entire district.

Heckscherville

When the early settlers came to Heckscherville it was a vast wilderness. The trees and bushes were quickly cleared away and "log cabins" were erected in the clearing. The woods filled with game, and the streams yielding edible fish, this proved a fitting place for settlement.

The inhabitants of the village were English, Irish, Scotch, and Welsh. In the beginning (1830-48) this little place was known as "Paines' Patch," named in honor of Wm. and Geo Paine, who bought the Chapham Colliery in 1845. They erected a breaker about 1-4 of a mile west of where Pine Knot now stands; they also erected a store which is used at the present day as a dwelling house. The village was named in honor of Chas. H. Heckscher, a coal operator and one of the leading men in the Forrestville Improvement Co. The Heckscher family was of French descent and they came from Phila.

About two miles west of Paines Patch, we find "Cracker Patch," a row of houses on each side of the road. There was also a company store and a mine at this place. An interesting story is told concerning the origin of the name: One year the men, who worked very hard and secured good wages, were unable to procure food; the store was out of flour for about a month, and the people were obliged to live on crackers instead of bread. From then on, it was called "Cracker Patch."

About a mile to the east was a place known as Hammet's Patch.

The Forestville Improvement Co. was responsible not only for building up Forrestville, but one of its founders Chas. Heckscher, was responsible for building up Heckscherville, from whom the village takes its name.

In the fall of 1829, Lewis C. Dougherty, Esq., made the first opening in Coal Castle. At the first gap in the Broad Mountain north of Mine Hill Gap, upon Laurel Run, Mr. Dougherty continued operations until 1838, when his plans were all frustrated and progress arrested through accident or carelessness. A powder keg in McGinnis' Drift, used for a stove, was upset. The dry timber was ignited and set fire to the mine. The drift was abandoned. Eight years ago it was discovered that deep veins of coal had been burned to ashes clean to the strip-pings. The little village of Coal Castle, which sprang up here was named by its inhabitants in "contra distinction" to the title of the village of New Castle, in New Castle Township, because of the influence of Cornish people who located here; they coming from the little mining town of New Castle, England. The workings of the village of Heckscherville were turned over to the P. & R. C. & I. Co.

Thomaston

The Thomaston Shaft was first commenced on Dec. 19, 1874, on the north side of Mine Hill. A tunnel was driven through the hill above water level, running a distance of three miles, and making a bend similar to the making of a horse-shoe. It opened into the working of "Black Heath" on the south side of the mountain. The name Thomaston originated from an early coal operator, Thos. Puherick, Sr., who was largely interested in the opening of the shaft and tunnel. Both Heckscherville and Thomaston are the creations of the collieries in their vicinity.

A church was erected in 1858, St. Kieran's, while in 1859, the Methodists, under Wm. Payne, opened a Methodist Church.

Heckscherville became the location of the first school.

Duncott

Between Heckscherville and Minersville we find Mine Hill Gap on the upper end; and the Delaware on the lower end.

Mine Hill Gap, taking its name from the opening in the rocks, was at one time a thriving little village; workings began here about 1855, by Spencer Co. One level was in operation, but an explosion of gas occurred, and the colliery was closed. Later it was reopened by Chas. Hill, and it was known as the "Hill Slope." This continued in operation until the rope of the car broke while the men were being lowered. Ten men were killed, and activities ceased and the slope was flooded.

Later, Ritter, Leisenring and Kemmerer started operations again in this vicinity. The ground came into the possession of two coal operators, Dundas and Lippincott, and they decided to open up a colliery, a colliery store and a postoffice—the upper part of the village (Mine Hill Gap) and the lower part (Delaware) lost their identity, and became known as Duncott. (Dunn, after Dundas, cott after Lippincott.)

The first postmaster of Duncott was Thos. Evans, who was mine foreman of the colliery at that time. Later the operations were purchased by the Pine Hill Coal Co., and they also continued operating Oak Hill. In 1925, Weston Dodson began operating the colliery. Today this is the chief operation in the township.

Branching off from Duncott, we find Shaeffers Hill, sometimes known as Welsh Road from the number of Welsh inhabitants living here.

The first workings in Duncott (Delaware) were a little breaker

and a drift, both owned and operated by two men, Evan Evans and David Davis. A wooden railroad ran into the drift, and the "buggies" were pushed by the men. Mules had not made their appearance at that time.

Labor Organizations

Mining had not been carried on many years in this region until the necessity of organization became very apparent. This took definite form about 1866, when John Siney of St. Clair, organized in this region the Workingmen's Beneficial Association, and became its first president.

The first general strike of Anthracite workers in 1875 lasting for six months was led by this organization and resulted in a crushing defeat for the miners. During this period the organization was led by John F. Welsh of Forestville, who later represented this District in the General Assembly of Pennsylvania, and ended his active career as a general superintendent for the P. & R. C. & I. Co. in the Shamokin region.

In all succeeding labor movements Cass Township has played its proper part.

The Knights of Labor and the Miners' and Laborers' Amalgamated Association of the later Eighties were strongly supported here but they, too, like the W. B. A. were driven from the region as the result of an unsuccessful strike during the winters of 1887-88.

From this time until about 1900, the miners of this section worked without any organized protection, but the advent of the United Mine Workers of America into this region was hailed with joy. In Forestville the oldest local branch of the Mine Workers is to be found.

When John Fahy, later President of District Nine, entered this region

as an organizer, he found no trouble in organizing the first Local and in it he enrolled as a member continuing his membership until his death. The present incumbent of the Presidency (1934) is also a Cass Township man, Martin F. Brennan, of Mackeysburg.

He is the youngest man who has ever held this position and he occupies the presidency at one of the most trying periods in the history of the labor movement.

Churches

In Heckscherville, a Catholic church was erected in 1858. The idea of erecting the church was conceived by the pastor, Father Malone, of St. Vincent de Paul's, Minersville, who had to come to Heckscherville to say mass. The assistant rector, Father Scanlan, visited the valley and began the formation of the new parish. The majority of the people living in the vicinity were Catholics. The many families anxious to have a church of their own contributed \$10 per family and in a short time the location was agreed upon and the contractor began work in 1857. The corner stone was laid Sept. 16, 1857, by the Rev. Nicholas J. Cantwell, of Phila. It was the first stone structure in the vicinity to be dedicated to God, and was given the name of St. Kyran. In 1857, the Rt. Rev. John Newman, Bishop of Phila., visited Heckscherville. Rev. J. B. Scanlon was the first pastor. Among the succeeding pastors were: Fathers McHugh, Reilly, Dolan, Tierney, Motley, O'Neil, Devers, Holahan, and the present pastor, Rev. P. J. Dougherty. Through the cooperation and generosity, the people of the Valley can boast of a group of beautiful buildings, an electrically equipped church, rectory, convent, and parochial school stand

on the hill side as a silent shepherd guarding his flock. The pastoral house was built in 1853, and in 1854 a cemetery was laid out.

At one time, a Methodist church was located in the Valley. It was built in 1853 by subscription. The principal contributor was a coal operator, Wm. Payne; some of the early members of the organization were: Wm. Payne, Geo. Brown, Jos. Jenkins, and Abraham Ayers. Their first minister was Rev. John Bank. The church ceased to exist in 1870.

In Forestville, Chas. Heckscher and his family were instrumental in building a St. Stephen's chapel, completed in 1857. In 1870, Mrs. Arthur de Sauls, daughter of Chas. Heckscher, was responsible for the renovating of the building—new carpets, a chancel, and large stained glass windows were added; the latter was in memory of her father. The chancel was consecrated by Bishop Williams. Early ministers were Revs. Byllesby and Koons, while James Nesbit of Forestville was among the early Sunday School teachers. Today, the church is a mission of St. Paul's, Minersville. Rev. Halloway is the pastor, while Benj. Dolbin, a descendent of one of the early pioneers, is Superintendent of the Sunday School.

In the winter of 1907 and 1908, mass was celebrated in the Forestville school house by the Rev. Fr. McMahon and his assistants, among them Fathers Wilson and Hanney. As transportation facilities increased, mass in the school house was discontinued—the inhabitants of the Valley going to St. Vincent's, Minersville.

The Primrose Union Sunday School was organized in 1895 in the Primrose School Building (Red Building). Joseph Turner acting as temporary President. Miss Elvira

Jenkins was the first superintendent. Mrs. Adams and Mrs. Watts were the teachers. In 1896, there were 54 pupils and six teachers. In this year Mr. Mapstone was superintendent, holding the office until 1907. In 1898, there were 88 pupils and 8 teachers. In 1901, Chas. Ludwig became superintendent, and during 1902-05 E. M. Davis filled the office. In 1906 Chas. Ludwig again held the position. From 1907-1909 William Stevens acted as superintendent, and in 1909 David Jenkins was elected to the office. In 1910, David Thomas held the position and in 1911, David Jenkins, Senior, was appointed, holding the position until 1915.

In 1916, William Crook became superintendent, and one year later Mr. Jenkins again assumed charge. Fred Luxton and John Moore served from 1918 to 1929. Since 1929, Robert Beveridge has been the efficient superintendent, under whose guiding hand the school has made rapid progress.

The Sunbury Trail

The Sunbury Trail, a narrow winding road came up Sunbury Street, Minersville, and turned off at Sunbury and Fifth Street, thus giving the name to the main street of the town. It followed the course of the present lower road of Jonestown. It came through Jonestown, passed the Patten, Jones, Goulds, Gavins and Connery homes. The hall, now known as Moose Hall, was a stopping place for the coach as was also the log-cabin which was then the home of Watt Bell. The trail continued through the centre part of Jonestown, through Black Heath, and then continued into Foster Township at the meeting place of the Scott and Buck Run Road, and continued on to Sunbury. It was known as "The King's Highway."

However, since the founding of Cass Township up until the year 1890, highways in the township were in a deplorable condition. No definite plan in building roads was followed, because the population was small and funds were insufficient to properly repair the roads. The above conditions existed until the Losch Road Act, (1893) was passed by an act of the state legislature. Through this act the taxpayers were given permission to repair the highways to the amount of their tax indebtedness.

This system of roadbuilding was in operation until 1927, when the Taxpayers' Association was prevailed upon to build some improved highways to meet the needs of the increasing auto-motor traffic.

Early Education in the Township

Turning back the pages of time, we peep through the window of an old school house. In the center stands an old cast iron stove in which wood is burned. Later when coal began to be used as fuel the wood continued to be piled in the coal house to supplement the coal for "hard days." The older boys helped the school master build the fire. On an old bench, hand made, stood a tin pail and hanging above it was a big tin dipper. This pail was filled with drinking water on an average of twice a day.

The pupils and teachers used quill pens, made by the teacher in charge of the class. The pupils recited "pieces" or held spelling bees. In a spelling bee, the pupils lined up in two rows, one on each side of the room and then each side attempted "to spell the other down." Each side had a captain who did the choosing and he was often the first to fail on the spelling of some word.

In those days boys wore heavy boots in cold weather, long knitted scarfs and mittens. Overcoats were

unknown; often smaller boys wore coats belonging to their older brothers or older men of the family. The girls wore knitted caps, quilted petticoats, shawls, leggings and mittens, each pupil carried a lunch, as transportation was unknown, and highways were sometimes impassable in stormy weather.

On the hill in Woodside stands a stone school house. So securely was it built that it serves today as a dwelling place. It was built about 1835, at least 13 years before the creation of Cass Township. The first school house in Cass Township was erected at Heckscherville; prior to its erection, abandoned company houses and engine houses were used for school purposes. Jas. Pearse was the first teacher in this building. The Board of Directors met in McDonald's Hotel; some of the directors were: Andrew Patten, Wm. Cooke, John Kennedy, Robert Patten, Peter Fitzpatrick, John Delaney. The first of these meetings was held at the home of Abraham Hoch. The monthly salary was \$28 per month.

New School Added in 1856

On March 1, 1856, the Board of Education consisted of John Smith, John Fitzpatrick, Martin Corigan, Mike McGuire, Chas. McDonald and Thos. Martin. The secretary of the Board was Thos. Martin. In 1856, a two story school house was erected in Patten's Valley; some of the teachers at that time were: Mike Groody, Jas. Pearse, Jas. Knowles, Thos. Fogarty, Patrick McGuire, Samuel Clarkson, Jas. Mohan, Jer'm Crooke, Patrick Gallagher. The salary of the teachers at this time was \$32.50. In 1856, the salary of the teachers was advanced to \$35. In March, 1857, a school house, 25x35, was built at Coal Castle and one at Black Valley. The contract was given to Edmund Bradley, who built them for \$875, each.

The first general examination of teachers was held at Primrose, June 25, 1857, while in August, schools were opened at Jonestown, Thomaston, and Pattens Valley. To Jas. O'Connor was given the contract of making the desks and benches for the new school at Pattens Valley, at \$8 per set. In 1865, the stone school, still standing in Forestville, was built; and in 1866, the building at York Tunnel was completed. In December, 1866, Michael Butler was appointed to succeed Chas. McGee, who had resigned, while Philip Clark was appointed to teach in Black Valley, June 2, 1875. The first District Superintendent was George Madden, who received \$80 for his duties. In 1876, Jas. T. Kelly was appointed Supt. of the Township.

During the many years the average school term varied from 9 to 10 months; the salary in 1855 was \$40, between 1861-65 it was \$60, and in 1876 it was \$70. James Knowles taught in Primrose, Patrick McGuire taught in Woodside in the old company house owned by the Forestville Improvement Co. Mike Connelly was appointed to a school in Jonestown in an engine house. Terrence Cooke taught in an old log cabin at Black Heath.

In 1876 the township was divided into 12 school districts, there being 12 school houses in the district; 12 principals were employed, supervised by a superintendent. The first woman to serve as principal was Miss Margaret Kelly.

Between 1880 and 1900, we find the following names among the teachers:

M. C. Butler, Jas. Butler, John Toole, Thos. Brennan, Sarah Fadden, Annie Carney, Mary Daley, Julia Dormer, Thos. Boyle, Lucy Egan, Martin McAvoy, Jas. T. Kelly, M. J. Brady, Bridget Deegan, Chas. O'Neil, Martin

Brophy, John J. Hughes, Thos. Dormer, Martin Foyle.

In 1900, a two room school house was situated on the present site of the Primrose grade building. It was enlarged to 4 rooms. Michael C. Butler, who recently returned from Mahanoy Plane, was the first Principal of the high school. He served from 1900 to 1910. The student body numbered 20. The curriculum consisted of history, English, mathematics and Latin. In 1910, Mr. Butler resigned because of ill health. He was succeeded by Wm. Shore of Heckscherville, who held the office for four years. The student body steadily grew. After four years Mr. Shore was succeeded by John A. Carroll. Mr. Carroll resigned at the end of the year to enter Medical College and Jas. D. Toole, a graduate of Lafayette College became principal in 1914. The High School was moved from the top of Primrose Hill to the White School building on the Jonestown road, which building was occupied and used by the Union Sunday School of Primrose. As the student body increased it became apparent to the school authorities that a new high school building was needed. James Campion was elected Supervising Principal. A new building was erected. The students of the Heckscherville Valley were transported by bus and thus were able to attend high school. History, English, Latin and mathematics were taught. In the first graduating class under Mr. Toole there were five members; the next year, six. The graduation exercises were held in the Primrose Sunday School.

War clouds hovered over Cass Twp., and Mr. Toole left for service in 1918. His place was taken by Thos. Curran, a graduate of Dickinson College, but his career as principal ended in October, 1918, when he fell a victim of Spanish Influenza. For the first time

in the history of Cass Township schools and churches were closed; the death rate in each locality was very high. When school was reopened the services of Rufus Reed, of Hegins, were secured as principal. He was succeeded by Mr. Toole, who had returned from service.

In 1916 a two year Commercial Course was added to the curriculum; this addition was made not only to raise the standing of the school, but also to fit the students for the real business of living. In the first year shorthand, typewriting and bookkeeping were taught. The school has made much progress since that first commercial course—today, the commercial course includes: junior business training, business English, office practice, business law, commercial arithmetic, in addition to the subjects already mentioned.

In 1919 a four year Academic Course was inaugurated. This placed the school on a higher plane, and it was recognized, in 1920, as a first class High School. During this year the student body numbered 49, and the faculty numbered 4. In 1920 Mr. Toole left for Iowa and his place was taken by H. Clay Martin. In 1922 an Art Course, under the direction of Miss Mildred Jantzen was organized. The faculty numbered 13 and the student body increased to 258. The school was reorganized on the Six-Six Plan—Junior-Senior High School.

In 1923 the Manual Arts Department, with Andrew Malone as its first director, was opened. This General Shop Course was introduced to develop skill in handling tools. In 1926 the curriculum was enlarged by the addition of a Physical Education course. Much progress has been made in this field of work. In 1929, a school nurse was appointed to assist the doctor in his work.

In 1932, because of the increase in the student body, the school building

was enlarged, the auditorium was increased in size, and provisions were made for a Home Economics Department. In the new Annex is found a fully equipped Home Economics room, a gymnasium, 70 feet square, a music room, nurses' room and a rest room. The gymnasium was dedicated with appropriate exercises on Halloween, 1932.

Instrumental music classes are conducted in the music room under the direction of Miss Florence Stephens and Wm. Smathers. Instrumental (piano) classes were begun in 1927 by Miss Stephens of the Braun School of Music, Pottsville. Many children have received instruction which has enabled them to continue their musical education after leaving school.

The band was organized by Miss Mary Muldowney in 1928. Through her untiring efforts and encouragement, it has grown in membership yearly. In 1931 the band was reorganized by Wm. Smathers, a recent graduate of Indiana Teachers College, and today it is an outstanding organization receiving recognition in musical circles. Other musical organizations playing a prominent part in the development of our schools are: Boys and Girls Glee Clubs, Boys Chorus, Girls Chorus, Mixed Chorus, consisting of 150 to 200 voices, and last, but by no means least, "The Johnny Schmoker Chorus." This organization, under the direction of Miss Muldowney, did more to spread the name of "Cass" than any of the other school organizations. The invitations received by their leader for their appearance at many state and educational meetings, are standing testimonial of their ability to sing the scores of Masters. This is evidenced by the numerous letters received by Miss Muldowney from Music Critics on the broadcasting of their program.

In 1921, the call for orchestra candidates was answered by two girls

and three boys, the only ones in the school with any instrumental training. These five were Mary Grace and Julia Maley, pianists; Joe Jenkins and Arthur Horn, violinists, and J. Harry Close, cornetist. This quintet furnished the music for all school functions until their graduation.

In 1928, the High School orchestra numbered 22 pieces. The violins increased to 12 in number, in addition there were two cornets, a trombone, two clarinets, a flute and a saxophone. The School Board furnished the new instruments.

The orchestra has attained a high degree of perfection under capable direction.

In 1929, Mr. Toole resigned to become Assistant County Superintendent, filling the vacancy caused by the sudden death of Martin E. Foyle, teacher of Cass before his appointment to the Superintendent's staff.

The office of Principal was filled by James F. Murray, a native of Scranton, and a graduate of Syracuse University. Through his guidance the activities instituted by Messrs. Martin and Toole have been broadened; courses have been added, and some changed, and the student body has grown by leaps and bounds, until today it numbers 750.

The Washington Trip for the graduates, instituted by Mr. Martin, and continued by Mr. Toole, is an annual event. The Athletic Banquet, first given in March, 1930, by Mr. Murray, is looked upon today as a definite part of the school organization.

In the summer of 1928, the school building at Duncott was burned down. A new building, containing eight rooms and an auditorium, was built on the site of the old. In 1931, work was begun in the building, gathering material for a museum.

Today it is receiving recognition, and the different schools throughout the township are supplied with pictures, slides, relics, maps, etc.

Cass Township In Military History

As far back as 1832, Irish immigration was responsible for a number of settlers reaching this locality. The oppressive rule of England had caused them to become very bitter; they looked with suspicion on everything that would in any way destroy or take away from them any of the rights and privileges they called their own. They were early converts to "Let Alone Theory." When England decided to raise sheep, Irish lands were confiscated by the Absentee Landlord, and the little land that remained for agriculture was very unproductive. A famine broke out in 1848, and many of the dissatisfied and oppressed found sympathy and encouragement in Cass Township.

When the Civil War clouds gathered, President Lincoln issued a call for troops to defend the Union. Many of the sons of Cass enlisted in companies formed at Minersville and other nearby towns. The National Draft Law went into effect in 1863. The commissioner of the Draft in this locality was Benjamin Bannan, the editor of the Miners Journal at that time. Orders from the Secretary of War were "That the Draft Order should be enforced." However, the mining group of Cass Township, remembering the oppression and harsh treatment given to them by England, looked on the orders of the government suspiciously, and gave evidence of trouble. A. K. McClure, a close friend of Lincoln, and appointed by him as an overseer in this district, sent a message to Lincoln in cipher, describing the conditions as they really existed, and asking for his advice in handling

the situation that then existed in Cass Township.

Through Lincoln's words of wisdom the Cass Township quota was filled. Mr. Bannan received the necessary affidavits of exemption.

Governor Curtin, of Pennsylvania, proclaimed the Draft Law inoperative in Cass Township, and there was no difficulty in filling the quota.

Cass Township holds a creditable record in the Spanish American War.

Before the Draft Law in the World War became effective, many of "Our Boys" volunteered for service; the spirit of adventure was alive. The boys readily answered the call to the colors, and in a few cases, "Gold Stars," the symbol of "died in France," were hanging in the windows of the township; the other boys returned from France and from camps to take up the real business of living.

From the records of "Schuylkill County in the World War," the following list of World War veterans is taken:

Brennan, Harold—Forestville
 Brennan, Jas. R.—Forestville
 Brennan, Jos. A.—Forestville
 Brennan, Thos. H.—Heckscherville
 Babish, Jos.—Jonestown
 Brennan, Thos. J.—Heckscherville
 Beretsky, Jos.—Forestville
 Brophy, Wm. E.—Heckscherville
 Burns, Bernard—Heckscherville
 Buggy, David—Jonestown
 Boyle, John—Schaeffer's Hill
 Birinski, Mike—Jonestown
 Brown, David—Forestville
 Carter, Wm.—York Tunnell
 Champion, Richard—Heckscherville
 Carroll, Jas. A.—Heckscherville
 Connelly, Edw.—Forestville
 Davis, Harry—Duncott
 Delaney, John—Heckscherville
 Delaney, Joe—Thomaston
 Doyle, Terrance, York Tunnell
 Dunlop, Nelson—Forestville

Dempsher, Steven—Forestville
 Farley, J. Gervace—Forestville
 Farley, Vincent J.—Jonestown
 Furphy, John J.—Forestville
 Furphy, Chas.—Forestville
 Gallagher, Jas. M.—Duncott
 Gallagher, John J.—Duncott
 Gallagher, Peter—Heckscherville
 Gress, John G.—Duncott
 Gufusky, Paul—Primrose
 Gibbons, Raymond—Primrose
 Hammer, Thos.—Duncott
 Harding, Jas. S.—Heckscherville
 Harding, Thos.—Heckscherville
 Heatze, Metro—Heckscherville
 Hertz, Metro—Heckscherville
 Hoban, Jos.—Coal Castle
 Hallahan, Thos.—Coal Castle
 Hughes, Thos. J.—Heckscherville
 Halcovitch, Pete—Primrose
 Halcovitch, Samuel—Primrose
 Jefferson, Jas. A.—Duncott
 Jefferson, Robt. Henry—Duncott
 Jones, Wm.—Jonestown
 Kennedy, Francis D.—Heckscherville
 Ketchu, Geo.—Forestville
 Luxton, Arthur J.—Primrose
 Lynch, Jos. F.—Forestville
 Lynch, Patrick—Forestville
 Lawlor, Wm.—Primrose
 Lytle, Chloe—Primrose
 Maley, Thos. F.—Heckscherville
 Martin, Robt. E.—Duncott
 McGeary, Edw. John—Forestville
 McGuire, Wm.—Duncott
 *Martin, Geo.—Jonestown.
 Murphy, Patrick F.—Heckscherville
 McKendry, Lew.—Forestville
 Muldowney, Thos.—Heckscherville
 McDonald, Joe—Schaeffer's Hill
 Nevils, Wm.—Forestville
 Nevils, Raymond—Forestville
 O'Connor, Jos.—Heckscherville
 O'Connor, Jas.—Forestville
 O'Connor, John—Forestville
 O'Herron, Owen Jerome—Duncott
 Predorsko, Geo.—Heckscherville
 Pegurskie, John—Primrose

Joseph H. Zerbey History, Pottsville and Schuylkill County, Penna.

Reber, Eugene Wm.—Duncott
Reilly, Edw. A.—Primrose
Reilly, Thos. B.—Primrose
Reilly, Eugene—Forestville
*Reynolds, Wm.—Primrose
Roth, Daniel I.—Duncott
Reilly, Wm.—York Tummell
Reilly, Terrance—York Tummell
Rhoades, Robt.—Forestville
Schaeffer, Fred—Duncott
Schneider, John J.—Duncott
Shellhammer, Ira B.—Duncott
Shemella, Steve—Forestville
Sheridan, Con J.—Primrose
Shuey, Albert R.—Heckscherville
Sweeney, Jas. J.—Coal Castle

Sweeney, Jos.—Forestville.
Sweeney, John J.—Heckscherville
Simons, Robt.—Jonestown
Quinn, Chas.—Primrose
Quinn, Karl—Primrose
Quinn, Anthony—Primrose
White, John—Jonestown
White, Daniel—Jonestown.

Army officers were: Joseph Delaney, Heckscherville, died Oct. 11, 1918; Molachi McGee, Heckscherville, died in France, 1918, and John J. Schneider, Duncott, died in France, 1918.

* —Died in service.



Cressona Named for Quaker Founder

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper"*, February 24-28, 1934)

The history of Cressona was prepared by June Bittle, Dorothy Krommes, Henry Wagner, Harold Dieter and Richard Rubright, students in the American History Class of the Cressona High School of which A. L. Weaver is the Supervising Principal.

The references which were consulted included the following: "1811-1881 History of Schuylkill County"; "History of Schuylkill County;" "Sch. Co. History of 1880;" "Cyclopedia of Sch. Co.", and old newspaper clippings of J. W. Bittle.

In addition to Mr. Bittle, the pupils are indebted to the following persons for information: Miss Laura Hazel, Elisha Kantner, J. M. Schrope, Prof. A. L. Weaver, J. W. Kantner, Miss Agnes M. Gray, Miss Carrie Springer, Mrs. M. O. Blechschmidt, Jacob Brenninger, Mrs. Lambert Strauch, Mrs. N. A. Becker, Harry Dieter and I. B. Moyer.

The first settlers in the region now occupied by the town of Cressona were Germans. These people cut down the thick timber and under-brush growths to establish farms. Although they were very industrious the land yielded scant returns for all of their hard labor.

It is stated in the deed of the Methodist Church that the land on which Cressona is situated was at one time owned by Abraham Lincoln, cousin of President Lincoln; also that his wife Anna Boone Lincoln was the niece of Daniel Boone.

Farming was not to be the main cause for the founding of Cressona but a newer industry which caused the building of many other towns and cities and an industry which revolutionized many other industries. This industry was that of the Anthracite Coal. Although coal was discovered nearly two centuries ago, it was not until the 19th century that its production began to grow and toward the middle of the 19th century the shipping was so great that the canal

was too slow a method of transportation and railroads were built. The coming of the railroads meant the coming of Cressona.

The Mine Hill Railroad, which was built up through the Valley of the West Branch of the Schuylkill River, played a great part in the shipping of coal. This railroad was approved of by Gov. J. Andrew Shulze and was chartered on March 24, 1828. The railroad itself was completed in 1831. At this time wooden rails and cars drawn by horses were used. But in 1847 the company abandoned horses for the stronger and speedier steam engines. These engines needed repairs frequently, so car shops were built, scales for weighing the coal were also erected and there was a demand for laborers. John Chapman Cresson, who was then president of the Mine Hill Railroad Co., purchased a large portion of the farm of Thos. Sillyman and divided it into lots, fifty feet by two hundred feet, and sold them reasonably to his employes, so that they might live near their work.

Thos. Sillyman, who was an early farmer in this region, lived in the house which still stands on the corner of Walnut and Second Sts., and which is now occupied by Mrs. Fromnecht.

Once Called West Haven

Because of the increase in laborers, a small but prosperous village grew up. It was called West Haven. Money circulated freely on account of the regularity in the payment of wages by the Mine Hill Co. As the town grew in size, the citizens who had to send their children to rural schools and who had to go all the way to the Almshouse to vote, realized the inconvenience of these two things. They wanted better schools and a closer voting place. The Almshouse was too far away for the railroad employes to go to the poll to vote because they would have to leave their work for too long a time. Therefore, it was decided to form a borough. R. A. Wilder, an official of the Mine Hill Railroad Co., who had first suggested the forming of the borough, also suggested that it be called Cressona in honor of John Cresson.

At the June session of court, 1856, with Judge Hegins as presiding judge, the charter for Cressona was granted. It was dated Feb. 2, 1857.

The first election of the new borough was held in the Public School Building Feb 20, 1857. Today this school is an abandoned brick house at the corner of Second and Maple Streets.

The following officers were elected: Chief Burgess, Wm. A. Hannum; Council, R. A. Wilder, Benjamin Hosler, F. M. Nichols, Frank Kantner, E. Brasefield, Henry Merkle; High Constable, Wm. Styers; Auditors, Wm. Newell, F. B. Drehr, Ruben Laubenstine; Assessor, Daniel Bartoletsen; Secretary, D. H. Albright; School Directors, Peter Haas, J. J. Upehurch, J. Kantner, Robert Towns, N. G. Hammeken, Wm. Styers.

When the census was taken in 1860, Cressona had a population of 826 people; and by 1870 it had increased to 1,507, nearly twice as many as it had ten years before. In 1877 there were forty-nine horses and mules in Cressona, valued at \$3,275; fifty-five cattle, valued at \$1,100; and nine carriages, valued at \$530. Cressona continued to grow and prosper; and it was good news when the people heard it was planned to enlarge the railroad and to connect with the Lehigh Railroad near the Lehigh River. This extension would mean more shops and more work and so a bigger and better town. The Mine Hill Railroad Co. spent \$250,000 in enlarging their road and then the hopes of Cressona were suddenly shattered. The Mine Hill Co. leased their road to the Phila. and Reading Railroad Co. This event proved disastrous to Cressona for the Reading Company moved many of the shops from Cressona to Reading. The population of the town dropped from 1,507 in 1870 to 1,341 in 1880. In 1890, the population had again climbed up to 1,481. Then about the year 1896, the borough annexed Lordstown on the west; and enlarged the North Ward by annexing the land between the West Branch of the Schuylkill River and the Reading Railroad at Connors; in 1900 the population was 1,738 and by the last census in 1930, the population was 1,950.

No Early Cemetery

Today the people of Cressona strongly regret two things. First the moving of the shops; and second, the lateness in establishing a cemetery. The latter may seem very peculiar but nevertheless it is the truth. In the early days of Cressona, there was no cemetery here, therefore all the early settlers who played a great part in the building of Cressona are buried in cemeteries of other towns. For this reason many of the citizens do not know where

their ancestors are buried; and many do not even know who the older residents really were. It is not known where the Quaker founder of the town, John Cresson, is buried; but it is believed that his body rests in a cemetery in the City of Philadelphia. If he, as well as many others of the early settlers were buried in Cressona, more people of this community would honor them and hold their names in reverence. Prof. Theadore Plexis Classen, a man from Finland, was the first person to be buried in the Cressona cemetery. He was born in Uleaborg, Finland, in 1823, and died at the age of 32 years, on September 20, 1855, at Cressona. Professor Classen, who in his early days lived in Finland and was Professor of Modern Literature in the University of Helsingfors, was stricken with consumption and came to America for his health. It was a common belief in those days that the fresh breezes of the pine forests were a good cure for this disease. For this reason Professor Classen spent much of his time in the pine forest that covered the hill opposite Chestnut Street. He became so attached to it because of the many pleasant days that he spent there that it was his wish to be buried there when he died. When his body was finally laid to rest here few people thought that this was the beginning of the town's cemetery. Today the cemetery has grown to a considerable size and very little of the pine grove remains.

But it is not the cemetery which makes the town. It is the living and not the dead who make the town. Those who are dead have done their part; and now it is for the living to carry on the work which they have left unfinished, and that work is to build up a bigger and better town.

Four Churches In Town

The people of Cressona, like the people of all other rural communities,

think much of their church work. For this reason the town has four churches and in its time had five.

The Protestant Episcopal Church was the first church built in Cressona. It was an old English church attended by such people as the Hudsons and the Upchurches. The lot was donated by John Cresson and the church was built and paid for by 1859. It was dedicated by Bishop Bowman. Rev. A. Prior procured the charter and also promoted the organization of the church built under Rev. George A. Latimer. The first vestrymen were: Rufus A. Wilder, John R. Wilson, Henry Leonard, Henry Lewis, F. M. Nichols, Chas. M. Hill, W. J. Coulter, Robert Irwin and Wm. Newell. The church services were conducted by the Episcopal Denomination until 1876, at which time the St. Mark's Reformed Denomination began to hold their services in this church.

The St. Mark's Reformed Church, or the Grace Church as it was first called, was organized in the abandoned Protestant Episcopal Church on Wilder St., in 1876. The leaders were Isaac Strauch, Sr., Edward Beck, Abraham Morgan, Chas. W. Reed, D. H. Albright, Esq., and George Morgan. On Jan. 17, 1882, these people obtained a charter and changed the name of the church to St Mark's Reformed Church. Rev. J. Alvin Reber became the first pastor and served until 1887. The members now desired a building of their own. Edw. Beck donated a lot on Pottsville St., between River and Sillyman Sts. Isaac Strauch dug up the first ground and Abraham Morgan threw out the first shovelful of earth. The cornerstone was laid Oct. 29, 1882. Services were held on the first floor as soon as this part was completed. The church was completed and dedicated on Oct. 24, 1886. Rev. C. E. Bartholomew became Pastor and served from 1888 to 1908. A parsonage was erected

adjoining the church in 1892; and a bell was placed in the belfry and dedicated Aug. 28, 1892. Rev. J. A. Schaeffer became pastor in 1910, serving until 1917. The church was extended 18 feet in the rear, equipped with electric lights, a steam heating plant installed, and a Whirling pipe organ installed. Rev. E. R. Corman had charge from 1918 to 1923. During this time beautiful pews were installed. Rev. N. H. Fravel the present pastor, was called to the pastorate in 1923. The annex was purchased and equipped for Beginner and Primary work, and a library and reading room was furnished. A hot water heating plant was installed in the parsonage, the kitchen remodeled, parsonage and church repainted and frescoed, also a set of chimes installed in the organ by the confirmation classes from 1924 to 1931. Today the church has a large membership and many auxiliary societies.

The Bethany Evangelical Congregational Church of Cressona was a circuit, which began about 1823 near Friedensburg. The first church was built near Reedsville, then they moved closer home, preaching being held at West Haven and Beck's school house. Henry Rudy was the first class leader. In 1852, a lot was bought on Front and Maple Sts., and a church building erected. In 1870 this building became too small to accommodate the membership, and a larger church had to be sought. A lot was secured on Second and Maple Sts., where the United Brethren Church now stands, and a two-story church was built. This was used until 1894, and it was the best church in town at that time. At this time, the congregation split into the Evangelicals and the Congregationalists. The Congregationalists are now called the Bethany Evangelical Congregational Church, and the Evangelicals became those who

are now called the United Brethren. Then, for a while, those of the Evangelical Church worshipped in the old Episcopal Church on Wilder St. But in 1895, they took possession of the church at the corner of Front and Railroad Sts. This was at first a wooden church until it was destroyed by fire in 1920. The pastor, Rev. C. E. Hess, at once made arrangements for a new structure, and the beautiful brick structure which they now occupy was the result. The pastors since the organization of the Evangelical Church are: J. H. Sterner, 1893-1897; N. A. Barr, 1897-1900; J. L. Ginther, 1900-1904; J. K. Freed, 1904-1906; H. L. Yeakle, 1906-1910; H. J. O. Rinker, 1910-1914; J. E. Bahner, 1914-1917; C. E. Hess, 1917-1922; G. R. Riffert, 1922-1927; L. O. Wiest, 1927-1929; W. K. Cassel, 1929—.

After the breaking of the Evangelicals into two bodies (as previously stated) the United Brethren group worshipped in what is now the Fire House on Second St. The building became too small, and in 1880, a meeting of the first board was held to discuss the purchasing of a church lot. The board consisted of: Pres. A. S. Riland; Vice-Pres. Reuben Bretz; Sec. John N. Riland, and Treas. Gotlieb Wagner. In March of 1881, the lot on which the old Evangelical Church had stood, was bought on Second and Maple Sts., and in 1891 the United Brethren Church, which is still in use, was built. The first pastor was Rev. L. W. Crammer. This church became worn looking and needed repairs. In 1930, the downstairs of the church was remodeled and a partition added on the back, forming an arc behind the pulpit. Sound proof curtains were installed to separate the smaller rooms from the larger one. The second floor at the present time is

not in use. The present pastor is Rev. John Kanterman.

The Methodist Episcopal Church dates back to 1852. Before that time, there was no church organization. The Evangelicals and the Methodists held meetings together, but in 1852, the Methodists felt strong enough to act independently, and accordingly organized a Methodist Society. Up until 1859 they held their meetings in private homes, and later, in the old school house on the corner of Second and Maple Sts. In 1859, application was made for a charter, and the church was organized under an Act of Incorporation. The first trustees were: Capt. Wm. Gray, J. J. Upchurch, Henry Merkle, E. Fargo, R. Wright, M. Hoffman, J. Duncan, J. Mains and Henry Sortman. The trustees purchased a lot at the corner of Second and Ash Sts. from John Cresson for one-half of its estimated cost. The first pastor of the church was Rev. J. F. Meredith. The present pastor is Rev. Guy Everly.

Railroad Developed Town

Cressona today probably owes its very existence to the railroad industry. The most important early railroad in Schuylkill County, the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad, begun in 1828, passed through the present site of Cressona. From this project, Cressona was developed.

The first railroad through town was a small affair, but it grew rapidly. The rails, made of hard oak, were laid upon ties, and then thin strips of iron were fastened upon the rails to serve as a wearing surface. At this early date, locomotives were entirely out of the question; mules were used as motive power. As the mules were usually stabled at the collieries, this part of the industry did not employ many local men. But the cars used on

the road did furnish work, for there were always certain repairs to be made on them. Offices and repair shops gradually made their appearance; and homes were built for the workmen. The population of Cressona increased, and as the railroad industry promised to continue, things looked "bright" for the prosperity and development of the town. Plans were made for making the Mine Hill Railroad the chief factor for transporting coal from the collieries.

In 1847, the first locomotive was used on this railroad, and in a short time the mules were all replaced by locomotives. Machine shops and engine houses were built at Cressona, and as the railroad grew, so did the number of men employed by it. Many men were employed at the various shops on Front St. At noon, when the dinner whistle blew, the men swarmed out on the streets, and things assumed a busy air.

Then suddenly there came a halt to the rapid progress of the town, when the railroad was transferred into the hands of the Reading Railroad Co. Many of the shops were moved from Cressona to Reading, and the development of the railroad made no more progress here. Things concerning the railroad remained in practically the same state up until 1929, when the old round house and engine shop was torn down, and a new one built in its place.

Momentarily, this again looked bright, but these hopes were soon shattered, as in 1931, all railroad buildings in Cressona were closed, and today the railroad industry in Cressona is practically "dead."

Other Industries

Although the railroad was the most important factor in the development of Cressona, other industries have done their "bit" towards giving employment.

A mill for manufacturing blasting powder was established just north of Cressona by the Laflin & Rand Powder Co. A number of local men were employed here. However, when dynamite came into use as an explosive, the market for powder became poor, and finally the plant was abandoned.

About 1860, the business men of town decided to get together and build a mill, in which woolen goods was to be manufactured. Stock was raised, and a frame building was erected on Chestnut St. However, the project did not pay very well, and the mill was sold to a Mr. Yost from Berks County. About 1875, the mill was transferred to the hands of John Stark, who came from Delaware. One night the building mysteriously caught fire and burned to the ground. Later, a paper box factory was erected on the same site. Today this establishment is owned by Thos. Bast, Schuylkill Haven, and it employs quite a number of local hands.

About 1875, a Mr. Disston from Phila., established a cornet factory on Front St. After operating for a few years, the factory was moved to Williamsport, where it now operates.

About 1803, Conrad Hock established a lime kiln on the present site of Hock's coal yard. The establishment consisted of four large furnaces, in which the lime stone was burnt with a mixture of coal. This process reduced the lime stone to a fine powder, which was sold to the farmers to be used as fertilizer. Wm. Hock continued the operation after the retirement of his father. Later, the establishment passed into the hands of his son, Elmer, who discontinued operating the kiln because of newer methods of preparing the lime, and in its place, he established a coal yard.

About 1860, Senator Keefer and his brother, John, established a foundry at the lower end of Railroad St. In it, different articles, such as wheels and trucks for railroad cars, were made and sold to the Mine Hill Co. However, late in the 60's, when the Mine Hill was leased to the Reading, the market for the material was discontinued, and the foundry was finally abandoned.

In January, 1897, a shirt factory, was established near River St. by Martin Wagner, W. Phillips and Chas. F. Beck. The building was not very large at first, and only 17 persons were employed. As the factory became older, gradually additions were made, and more people employed. In 1899, Wagner withdrew from the company, leaving Beck and Phillips in charge. Fifteen years later the partnership of Beck and Phillips was dissolved, Beck taking over full charge of the establishment. In 1915, a knitting department was added to the mill, which gave employment to about 20 more persons. By this addition, the mill was enabled to manufacture men's and ladies' knitted underwear. Today the factory is still owned by Mr. Beck, and has a maximum capacity of 100 operators.

In 1905, Wm. Seifert came from Lancaster and established a shop on Pottsville St., in which wagons were repaired and built. Later, when automobiles came into existence, the place was converted into an auto body works. Today, the plant still works, known as the Cressona Auto Body Works.

Bank Was Organized

In 1908, a group of people got together and decided to build a bank in Cressona. Funds were raised and the bank was completed late in 1908. It was open for business in

1909, with C. F. Beck president, Wm. Heffner, of Friedensburg, vice-president, and E. D. Meixel, cashier. At the death of Mr. Meixel, Maurice D. Walborn succeeded him as cashier on Nov. 1, 1920. In 1916, Elmer Smith, of Sch. Haven, was taken into the bank as teller, and since then he has been promoted to the position of assistant cashier. In 1920, Miss Esther Meixel, daughter of the former cashier, was given the position of clerk, which she now holds. The First National Bank is one of which Cressona can be proud. It is very reliable and renders fine service to its patrons. When the bank crisis came in 1933, the Cressona Bank was well prepared to face it. All emergencies were met, and today it is just as firm, if not firmer, than ever before.

In 1923, when it was decided to build a Schuylkill County Fair, the present site of the Fair in Cressona was chosen. The building of the Fair furnished considerable employment for local men, and each year during "Fair Week," Cressona is the center of attraction in the county.

Educational Advantages

The educational advantages of Cressona today are everything that anyone could expect a town of its size to have. This condition is just opposite that which existed in the days before the borough was incorporated.

The educational advantages accorded to West Haven by the school directors of North Manheim Township were not satisfactory to the citizens, who had children to educate. At different times, in the early history, plans were suggested and discussed to remedy the defects of the school system. The early township schools located around this section were at W. Chestnut St. and at the

corner of Second and Maple Sts., across from the United Brethren Church.

In all matters, concerning the schools, the officers of the railroad took a deep interest. In view of the probable importance of the place in the future, and the great need of local government, the principle resident officers suggested the incorporation of the town into a borough, with an independent election and school district.

The first election was held in Cressona's first public school house, Feb. 20, 1857. At this election, the first school board of Cressona was elected. It consisted of Peter Hass, J. J. Upchurch, Jacob Kantner, Robt. Towns, N. G. Hammeken and Wm. Styers. All these men were deeply interested in the building of education in Cressona. The first movement under the new state of things was to improve the system of public education.

At the school board meeting the following May (after the election), the directors decided to sell the old school house, and build a new one upon a more improved plan. A large brick building, containing four rooms, located on Third St., replaced the small building furnished by the directors of the township.

As the population of the town grew, a two-story addition, containing two rooms, was erected. About the same time, a new school building was constructed in that part of town now constituting North Ward. It was on Park St., where the Cressona Auto Body Works is located today.

The best teachers were selected by the board of education to teach the young in these "colleges of the People."

The most notable teachers or professors of the early schools in Cres-

sona were: Prof. J. M. Peoples, who had charge of the Cressona schools around the 1860's, and Dr. A. N. Raub, author of many school text books, and first principal of the Central State Normal School, Lock Haven, Pa.

The Central State Normal School at Lock Haven, Pa., had its inception at Cressona. Prof. J. M. Peoples writing in 1911, said:

"In the spring of 1861, while in charge of the schools of Cressona, Sch. Co., Pa., I accepted a call to the Chair of Mathematics in the Excelsior Normal Institute, located at Carversville, Bucks Co., Pa., where an organized effort was made to secure the State Normal School for the district composed of Bucks, Montgomery and Chester Cos.

"After I accepted the call, I recommended A. N. Raub to the Cressona School Board, and he was promptly elected my successor. When he opened his school in September, 1861, I made him a visit, and it proved a very important one, for I then made arrangements for a life partnership with the little lady who has been my precious wife for nearly half a century. She was my first assistant when I taught there.

"On a beautiful Sunday afternoon, Mr. Raub and I took a walk to one of the foothills of Sharp Mountain. After seating ourselves on a couple of boulders of conglomerate rock, Mr. Raub turned to me and said: 'John, the ambition of my life is to found a Normal School, with myself as principal, and with you in charge of the Mathematical Dept.'

"Mr. Raub never lost sight of his object, and when he became superintendent of the schools at Lock Haven, he recognized his opportunity, and proceeded to interest a number of public-spirited citizens in the project." The result was the organi-

zation of the Central State Normal School, now the Teachers College, at Lock Haven, with Dr. A. N. Raub as principal and Prof. J. M. Peoples as teacher of mathematics.

These two professors, it can be seen, are outstanding. Others were: Vampult, Pliny Porter, a resident of Sch. Haven, who taught school in the North Ward, and was one of the state's oldest teachers; Josiah Lineaweaver, David Miller, who taught for 16 years, and was a well liked man; Jerry Hoffman, H. G. Dunkleberger and Dr. James Gray, who began teaching at the age of 16, and was a very popular man in Cressona.

Ten Month School Term

It must also be mentioned that the school term in early days lasted 10 months. During the other two months many citizens sent their children to what was then known as a Pay School. From the foundation of the borough, liberal appropriations have been granted by the citizens to keep their public schools up to an efficient standard. And it may be noted that Cressona schools have produced many educated men that can easily be compared with those of the other surrounding communities, even though Cressona was not fortunate enough to have a Class A High School until 1929.

The school building in North Ward, located on Park St., burned to the ground in 1921. Then the school building on Third St. was remodeled, and all of Cressona's children were taught there until the year 1929, when the new high school building, costing approximately \$60,000 was built.

The building of the High School meant a Class A High School for Cressona. The first six grades are taught in what is now known as

the old school building on Third St. The seventh and eighth grades have half sessions in the old buildings alternately. Then there is a fine four year course provided in the High School.

The outstanding teachers of the Cressona schools in late years are: Arters, Workmen, Zimmerman, John Soans, Maternis, Uhland, Prof. Andrew Weaver, the present day professor, who is very commendable, and a man whom we are proud to have as our professor. Miss Mina Bartolet, the teacher of the present fifth grade, who has taught for 53 years in the public schools; she will retire this year, 1934.

The present school board is composed of Mrs. Jacob Bittle as president, the first woman to be represented on the school board, and also the first woman to be president of a school board in this state; John Laubenstine, Wm. Moyer, Earl Fegley, and Mrs. Rosa Santee, Cressona's second woman on the board.

In late years, the schools of Cressona have taken special interest in the various sports, such as baseball, basketball and football. They have competed with other towns of the county in these sports.

The High School has also entered the county debating, oratorical and extemporaneous speaking contests in late years.

Certainly, the gradual development of education in the town shows that the citizens want the very best educational advantages they can afford.

Cressona, like all other towns, has had, and has still, people who are well known and remembered because of the things which they have done, or because of the position which they now hold.

The nationalities of the Cressona residents have previously been stated. There are, however, repre-

sentations from the other foreign nationalities. John Cresson, the land owner, was the earliest figure in Cressona's history. Many of the people of Cressona have deeds coming directly from John Cresson, and they are signed by him and his wife, Letitia Cresson. The first frame house, it is interesting to note, was owned by Mrs. Bowers. This house is still standing, and is owned and occupied by Jacob Brenninger.

Settlers came in gradually, and the population increased. The land on which Cressona now stands was bought from Thos. Sillyman. In honor of Mr. Sillyman, the people of Cressona named the street which is parallel to Grove St., Sillyman St.

R. A. Wilder, superintendent of the Mine-Hill Railroad, built and occupied the house in which Thos. Boussum now lives. Mr. Wilder came to Cressona from Massachusetts. He was a highly educated man and much interested in children and their welfare. The Wilders had no children of their own but they reared three girls, Misses Josephine and Emma Miller and Helen Price, nieces of Mr. Wilder.

Centennial Celebration

In 1876, the centennial year, Cressona had a befitting celebration. For the celebration, Mr. Wilder wrote a very complete and detailed history of Cressona. It is a misfortune that the contents of this manuscript are unknown.

Since Mr. Wilder's death, it is not known where the nieces are residing. Miss Emma Miller married a Mr. Luther and moved away.

Cressona will never forget the many benefits in which Mr. Wilder aided, the kindest of memories will ever linger.

The railroad caused quite a few "bosses" to make a permanent residence in Cressona. Many of their

homes are still occupied. A few examples are:- The Mansion House, now occupied by Michael Page and family, the home at present is owned by Dr. M. O. Blechschmidt, and also the house occupied by Wm. Grover.

In 1860, when the cry for men came, Cressona did not shirk its duty but sent its full and overflowing quota. The war record of Cressona was equal to all others in comparison to the size of the town.

Famous Racing Town

With Cressona's population increasing, in 1872 a race track and grandstand were built. The gate to this race track was directly south of the Cressona Auto Body Works. Races were held at various intervals during the summer, usually three days at a time. These races were very popular and attended by visitors and horse-lovers from distant cities. Some of the most famous horses in the United States raced at the Cressona track.

Goldsmith's Maiden at the peak of its fame came to the Cressona track for exhibition. One day, the horse was frightened, broke lose and ran away. The horse fell in the brick yard which was in the center of the race course and was killed.

There was a hotel where the jockeys, horse-owners and visitors spent the evenings. Beside the hotel was an open-air dance pavilion where dances were held during the racing season.

The boys of Cressona were paid ten cents (10 cts.) a day to pick small stones and pebbles from the track. This was done to keep the track in good racing condition. Horse races did not monopolize the Cressona track. Foot races, rooster and pigeon matches and fights were also held there. In 1885, the man-

agement failed and racing was discontinued.

Prominent Residents

Cressona had the honor of a resident State Senator in the person of Luther R. Keefer. Senator Keefer was a very popular man, as is shown by the fact that he was State Senator for twenty (20) years (1876-1896). While serving as Senator, he was chairman of the Railroad Committee, one of the most important committees in the Senate, thus proving state-wide popularity.

Senator Keefer and his brother, John, owned the property now owned by Monroe Sowers and Sally Krommes, for some time. When Wm. Bines, railroad superintendent, put the present Blechschmidt property up for sale, Senator Keefer bought it and resided there till his death.

Senator Keefer was the nephew of General Simon Cameron who was Secretary of War under President Lincoln and who, afterwards, was a United States Senator.

Dr. Dechert, a promising young physician, came to Cressona from Meyerstown, Penna. He practiced here until 1889, when he changed his location to Sch. Haven. During his residence here he had the misfortune to lose his wife. Later, however, he married Miss Ada Beck.

Dr. Dechert was highly respected by Cressona people as shown by the fact that he was elected school director. He was outstanding professionally and socially, always laboring for the good of the community.

The Spanish-American War received many recruits from Cressona. After this war the years passed in comparative quietude for the people of Cressona.

In the early nineteen hundreds, a building a few hundred yards south

of the present Reading Co. office building was considered the largest moving picture theatre in Schuylkill Co.

Years later, this very same building was turned into a garage by Roy L. Wagner. Many cars were kept there. One winter there was a very heavy snow and the roof collapsed, ruining many cars.

In 1904, N. A. Becker formerly of Cressona, moved to the Canal Zone where he accepted a position with the Panama Railroad Co. Mr. Becker is still residing in Panama and holds the position of Land Agent for the Panama Railroad.

World War Period

In 1917 when the call for men sounded throughout America, Cressona answered the call. The World War record of Cressona is 131 veterans and 1 nurse, Nell Beck. Three soldiers died in service. They were Stanley Dengler, who was killed in action; A. Earl McIlwain, Elmer F. Wenrich, who died in camp.

Soon after the war, dances were held in the present Reading Co. Office Building. At this time, this building was the American Legion Home. People from all over the county, even outside the county came.

After the war, and until 1929, there was considerable prosperity in Cressona. The railroad business was booming and then depression came. There are, however, some people who are bravely facing the storm and are trying to help their town.

Outstanding Families

The following are some of the outstanding families:—

Wm. Kulp, the business man, married Catherine Mullen. The family has two daughters, one, Jennie, married to Harry Stauffer, of Sch. Haven, and the other, Esther, at home, and three sons, Luther and

Charles at home, Howard, married to Lottie Reed, one son, Stanley, being dead.

John Sprenger, deceased, was a very important business man. He was married to Sarah I. Sherts. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Sprenger married a second time to Miss Laura Hazle of Cressona. The family is:—Carrie, at home; Lulu, at home; Hattie, wife of the late Geo. Postlethwaite; Albert, married to Judith Boyer of Pottsville, now living in Buffalo, N. Y.; Allen Miles is cashier of the National Bank of Shoemakersville, and married to Lorrena Mayberry of Sch. Haven, and John Lewis, married to Carrie Wildermuth, residing near Suedburg, Pa.

Elmer Hock is in the Coal and Building Material business which was formerly carried on by his father. He is married to Marion Seiger of Sch. Haven. They have three children, Thelma, who is teaching elocution at the Braun School; Rodman, at home and James who is attending school at Cressona.

Henry Butz is a progressive butcher of Cressona. He married Edna Brown and they have a son, Nathan, who is a junior in the Cressona High School.

Andrew L. Weaver is the principal of the Cressona Schools. He is married to Emma Bausch of Womelsdorf. They have two children, Gloria, a graduate of the Cressona High School and now a student at Catawba College, Salisbury, N. C., and Robert, a student in the Cressona Schools.

Wm. E. Berger, an undertaker, married Jennie Shaw, and the family is: Grace married to Walter Becker of Sch. Haven, Claire married to Clarence Uhler, now living in Phila.,

and Catherine, married to Robert Gehrig, now living in Sch. Haven.

C. F. Beck is a prominent business man of Cressona. He also is the president of the Cressona First National Bank. Mr. Beck is married to Mary Powely. Their family consists of Edith, married to Fred Hock, residing in Cressona; Carrie, married to Gerald Satterlee, living at Plainfield, N. J.; Bright, professor of History at State Teachers College at Kutztown, Pa.; S. Fred, president of the Mahanoy City Bank and married to Anna Richards; George, at home, and Harry, married to Ruth Bittle and living at Cressona.

Wm. K. Moyer a retired blacksmith of the Reading Co., is Secretary of the Board of Education and is married to Laura Strauch. Their family is: Emma, at home, William, a teacher in the Bethlehem High School, and Daniel, machinist at Bethlehem.

Elmer G. Grief is a business man married to Annie Wagner. The family consists of Marguerite, wife of Frank Bergwine, now of Long Island, and a son, La Mar, at home.

Jacob W. Bittle, business man, is married to Iva Honsberger of Tremont. He is president of the Cressona Branch of the American Red Cross and also of the Citizens Building and Saving Association. They have a daughter, June, who is attending the Cressona High School.

Guy N. Irving is the Chief Burgess. He married Inez Brenninger. They have one son, Glenn, a graduate of the Cressona High School and of the State Teachers College at Kutztown, now teaching school in West Brunswick Twp.

Bard Bartolet, North Ward Assessor, is married to Carrie Stine. They have two daughters, Mary teaching school in Pottsville, and Mae, attending State Teachers College at Kutztown.

Wm. S. Boussum, South Ward Assessor, is married to Ruth Wagner of Cressona. Mr. Boussum is employed by Doutrich's in Pottsville.

Roy L. Wagner is Cressona's postmaster. He married Katie Rauch. He is also co-partner of the Sch. Haven Body and Fender Works.

Maurice Walborn, married to Stella Heist, is cashier of the First National Bank of Cressona. Both of whom came from Orwigsburg.

Wm. L. McLaren, tax collector, is the town's druggist. He was formerly postmaster. He is married to Cora Hoffman.

Ivanhoe B. Moyer is a newsdealer and Justice of the Peace. Mr. Moyer married Maud Spang and they have one daughter, Louise.

Jacob Semar is the Commander of the American Legion Post No. 368, Mr. Semar is married to Hannah Fessler and they have two sons who are attending the public schools.

Howard Kulp, councilman, is married to Lottie Reed. Their family consists of Ora, a graduate of the Cressona High School and now employed in the Hoffman Knitting Mills; Paul, a Junior in High School, and June attending the Cressona schools.

Chas. W. Bittle, president of the Council, is married to Ada Fry. They have two children, Claire, who is married to Harry Koerper, formerly of Auburn, and Charles married to Erma Manbeck, both are living at home.

Gordon Nagle came to Cressona from Wayne Township. He was a successful contractor and built and owned a modern building on Centre St., Pottsville. He was married to Mary Dornsife, of Cressona. They had two children, Laura and Joseph. Mr. Nagle was elected sheriff of Schuylkill County in 1925. He passed away in 1929 from pneumonia while at the Jefferson Hospital in Phila.

Dr. G. O. O. Santee was one of Cressona's outstanding physicians. Dr. Santee came to Cressona from Petersburg, Penna. He was married to Rosa L. Kleppinger, and was in active service during the World War. After the War, he resumed his practice in Cressona. In 1927, he was a candidate for State Senatorship but was defeated. Dr. Santee was very much interested in public life. He was Schuylkill County's Coroner for eight years, having been elected in 1919. Their children are: Anne, wife of Dr. M. O. Blechschmidt, who practices in Cressona; Sterling, a prominent dentist married to Helen Sprenger, and Russel, a business man of Gordon married to Helen Klebber from Gordon. Dr. G. O. O. Santee was fatally injured in an automobile accident in 1929 and died in the Warne Hospital soon after.

J. E. Kantner is a descendent of one of the pioneer families of Cressona. He is a man of many experiences. He was employed by the Pullman Company and as their employe he spent much of his time in the south. In North Carolina, he accidentally met an Upchurch family and discovered that this family was related to John J. Upchurch who was a prominent Cressona resident. Mr. Kantner spent part of his life in Pittsburgh, Richmond and Boston. Finally, however, he returned to Cressona, the home of his father. In 1911, Mr. Kantner was elected County Controller and was re-elected in 1915, thus serving eight years in this office. He also, for twelve years served as Deputy Controller. After this he accepted a position at Harrisburg and worked under the State Treasurer and State Auditor, until his health failed. He then returned to Cressona, where he is residing. He married Lottie Deibert of Cressona and they have two sons, Archibald, a graduate of the Cressona High School and now

attending the Penna. State College, and Bruce at home, having graduated from the Cressona High School.

Lambert Strauch, business man and Secretary of the Borough Council married Jenny Singley. Their family consists of: John, who married Eva Heinbach of Sch. Haven and now lives in Sch. Haven; Mark and George at home; Esther married to Robert Spitler and living in Cressona; Paul a graduate of the Cressona High School and at present a student at Catawba College, Salisbury, N. C., and Wm., a Senior in the Cressona High School.

Dr. Jas. C. Gray, an outstanding physician, married Ellen Herring. The family is composed of George, married to Anna Wagner of Pottsville; John, married to Marion Raudenbush, both are in business and residing in Sch. Haven; Alma, married to Wm. Lose at home; Agnes, a teacher in the Cressona Public Schools; Catherine, a student at Duke University, Durham, N. C.; Jenny, a student at West Chester State Teacher's College, and William, attending the Cressona Schools. Dr. Gray was very popular and was known throughout the county as one of the pioneer physicians. He was active in his work until his sudden death, which was a great loss to the community.

Cressona Organizations

The Cressona Lodge No. 426, Free and Accepted Masons, was organized in 1868, mainly through the efforts of Luther R. Keefer. Henry H. Hazel was the first Master of the Lodge. At present, C. Elmer Smith is the Master.

The Citizens Building and Saving Association was organized in 1888 by the citizens of Cressona. John Lynch was the first president. John Sprenger was elected Treasurer and served in that office until his death.

The present officers are: J. W. Bittle, Pres.; Wm. Trommether, Vice

Pres.; Isaac Dando, Secy.; E. K. Fegely, Treas.

Up to this time 43 series have been matured by this association and many people of Cressona have secured homes and money through it.

The Order of Independent Americans No. 812 was chartered on July 6, 1894. It was begun by George Dengler and Isaac Dando and at the time it was chartered it had 49 members. It was chartered in the name of the Junior Order of Mechanics but this name was changed to that of the present day on April 10, 1905. Today, the lodge has 236 members. The higher officers are: J. E. Mullins, Councilor; Chas. Singely, Warden; Harry Dieter, Rec. Secy.; John Dieter, Fin. Secy., and Isaac Dando, Treas.

On Nov. 16, 1858, a charter was granted to the local organization of Odd Fellows. However, the charter was destroyed by fire and a new one was granted April 26, 1919. The first officers were: E. Bracefield, John Green, Wm. Hammer, G. Bintzer, Henry Hoffman. The present officers are: Chas. Heim, Councilor; Russel Wagner, Vice Councilor; Wm. Smith, Secretary; Edw. Wagner, Treasurer.

The Keystone Lodge No. 107, of the Sons and Daughters of Liberty was chartered on Nov. 4, 1903. There were 40 charter members. The present officers are: Mrs. Elmer Hock, Councilor; Mrs. Helen Santee, Vice Councilor; Miss Julia Wagner, Rec. Secy., and Isaac Dando, Treas.

Aside from being treasurer of the local branch, it might also be stated that Mr. Dando is State Treasurer for the Order.

The Cressona Chapter No. 367, Order of Eastern Star, was organized in April, 1923. The first worthy matron was Mrs. Annie Meixel. At present, Mrs. Gussie Krammer is worthy patron. Miss Catherine A.

Beck has held the position of Secretary since organization.

The first fire company in Cressona was organized in the year 1899, the first charter is dated Oct. 24, 1899. It is located in the South Ward on Second Street. The first officers were: Albert Fessler, Pres.; S. Hoffman, Vice Pres.; W. Gilbert, Rec. Secy.; J. Kantner, Fin. Secy.; J. Hornberger, Treas.

The chartered membership at that time was 98. Today it numbers over two hundred members.

The present officers are: Allen Sherman, Pres.; I. A. Fertig, Vice Pres.; E. K. Fegely, Secy.; I. B. Moyer, Treas.

The Good Will or No. 4 Fire Company was organized in 1910 at the home of H. E. Zerby. The first officers were: Dr. G. O. O. Santee, Pres.; A. Uhland, Vice Pres.; B. Bartolet, Rec. Secy.; George Seitz, Fin. Secy.; Wm. Trommetter, Treas.

A charter was secured for the fire company. The ground for the fire house was bought from the Misses Beck, and Gordon Nagle received the contract for the building. In 1911, the Council was given the permission to install an iron cage to serve as a temporary jail in time of need. The first Cressona Band was allowed the use of the building if they would play for the Fire Co. free of charge. During this year, many festivals and concerts were held to pay expenses. In 1912, the first fire apparatus was bought. It consisted of a cart with two chemical tanks. This cart had to be pulled to fires by members of the company. In 1918, a fire truck was bought in place of the cart. On Dec. 2, 1918, the fire house was used as a school house until a new school house could be built, the old building having been burned.

The Ladies Auxiliary, established in 1916, was a great aid to the company, especially in reducing its debt.

The following are the present officers: Thos. Coover, Pres.; Sterling Mertz, Vice Pres.; Earl Kline, Fin. Sec.; Daniel Mertz, Rec. Sec.; John Loy, Treas.

The Stanley Dengler Post No. 286, of the American Legion, was organized in Aug., 1919, in what is now the third story of J. W. Bittle's store. This place was not suitable and later the building, which is now the Reading Co. Office Building on Front St., was remodeled for their use. After meeting here for some time they received two rooms on the second floor of the Cressona Cafe and Restaurant at the corner of Chestnut and Sillyman Sts.

The commanders since the organization are: Dr. G. O. O. Santec, 1919-1921; R. Davis, 1922; Dr. G. O. O. Santec, 1923; C. G. Wenrich, 1924; C. E. Smith, 1925-1927; Luther Kulp, 1928-1929; Wm. Boussum, 1930-1931; Joe Casey, 1932; C. G. Wenrich, 1933; David R. Smith, 1934.

The Legion is very liberal with the use of its home. The home has been open to the local relief and unemployment agencies. The local Red Cross and the town Council also use the building.

The present officers are: David R. Smith, Post Com.; Chas. H. Kulp, First Vice Com.; Harry S. Lye, Sec-

ond Vice Com.; C. E. Smith, Fin. Officer; J. S. Semar, Adjutant.

The beginning of the Parent Teachers Association in Cressona is due to Dr. Wood, of Harrisburg, who came here to warn the parents of children about the contagious disease of Scarlet Fever, which was very common in 1927. He addressed his audience as a Parent Teachers Association. Later, Dr. Wood was told that no such organization existed in the town, but before he left town, the spirit of the organization was here, for the following officers were elected, and much interest followed: Mrs. J. W. Bittle, Pres.; Mrs. Ida Merkle, Miss Evelyn Speacht, and Chas. Wagner.

This organization had much to do with the building of the new high school building.

The first big project was buying 400 chairs, at the cost of \$1,690, for the auditorium in the new school. Other projects were: Plastering the ceiling of the auditorium; electric wiring of the school; foot-lights for the stage; window curtains; an electric clock system, and other helpful projects are being planned for the future.

The present officers of the P. T. A. are: Mrs. Helen Schwenk, Pres.; Mrs. Ida Merkle, Miss Marion Bittle and I. B. Moyer.

NOTE—Cressona history would be incomplete if it failed to stress the achievements of the late R. A. Wilder. When in charge of the Gordon Plane, he conceived the idea of telephoning from the top of the plane to the bottom. This very idea was later used to personal advantage by Alexander Graham Bell, who created the present day wonderful telephone system. During the Civil War in the United States, Mr. Wilder drafted a design for a long gun that could be used to route the enemy at the siege of Petersburg, Va. He went to Washington, pleaded with those in power to manufacture and use this gun, but his plea fell upon deaf ears. In 1899, the British went to war with the Boer colonists, in Africa, and the "Long Tom" gun used in that campaign, was built over the plans conceived by Mr. Wilder in the Civil War. It was heralded all over the world as a masterpiece of warfare mechanism.

Many other ideas of Mr. Wilder were so far in advance that the public failed to realize their great worth. Some of these ideas were illustrated and published in a New York magazine, with great praise for Mr. Wilder, but no financial gain resulted, he disdaining to commercialize any of them. He was a creator, not a toiler for monetary gain.

—E. L. C., "Republican," Pottsville.

Coaldale's History Began in Year 1827

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper"*, March 1-12, 1934)

The Senior Class, 1934, of the Coaldale High School, gathered this material under the direction of Wilbur E. Berger, of the Social Science Department. It was written by the same students as an English project under the direction of Oscar S. Keebler, head of the English Department.

Committees were appointed to do the research work, and the students responsible for each particular phase of the borough's history will be noted as the matter is printed.

FIRST SETTLERS

Committee: Anna Polonsky, Justina Sedlock, Mary Rayder, Joseph Ambrose, John Yancovich, Clement Yesulaitis, Francis Bugeravage.

The beginning of Coaldale, Schuylkill County, dates back to the year 1827 when John Moser and his wife settled here, four miles east of Tamaqua, Schuylkill Co., Pa. Born on May 24, 1805, in Tamaqua, John Moser was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Burkhart Moser, the original settlers of that town.

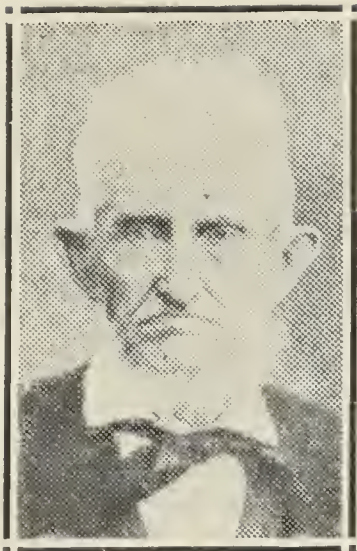
Upon arriving at Coaldale, John Moser built a log cabin on the north side of what was at one time known as Manila Grove Park. At present, 1934, the Coaldale State Hospital is located on this site.

After building the cabin, John cleared the land for the purpose of raising products for his own use. His principal occupation was hauling coal and timber to Tamaqua. This he continued until about 1887 in which year he vacated his farm

due to the fact that a coal company possessed his land and began the building of a breaker for the purpose of preparing coal. This breaker was known as the Number Twelve and was owned by the Lehigh Navigation & Coal Co.

His next move was to make his home with his grandson, John Barrett, now deceased. During his stay with his grandson he went into the dairy business. In the year 1888, he was appointed as the first tax collector of Rahn Township, Coaldale at that time being a part of the township. At that time it was the duty of the collector to go to the homes of the tax payers to collect the taxes. Along with his dairy, he kept this appointment till his death, which was in the year 1895. He was interred in St. John's Lutheran Cemetery in Tamaqua, which was the first cemetery in the vicinity and is now known as Dutch Hill.

John Moser was the father of four daughters, namely, Mary, Elizabeth, Catherine and Esther. Not only had he the honor of being the first settler of Coaldale, but he also had the honor of being the father of the



John Moser

The first settler of Coaldale, son of Burkhardt Moser, first settler of Tamaqua; born 1805 and died 1893.



Mary Moser

Daughter of John Moser, the first white person to be born in Coaldale. Born 1832; died Aug. 22, 1896.



Mrs. Eliz. Houser

Daughter of John Moser, first settler.



Frank Barrett

Son of Mary Moser, twin brother to John.



Mrs. Cath. Kuntz

Daughter of first settler of Coaldale.



John Barrett

Son of Mary Moser, twin brother to Frank.



Mrs. Esther Bobst

Daughter of first settler of Coaldale.

first white child to be born in Coaldale. This daughter was Mary.

Mary Moser was the first person from Coaldale to be married. She was united in marriage to Thomas Barrett by Rev. Wm. C. Fitzpatrick in Saint John's Roman Catholic Church, Summit Hill. They were blessed with nine children, six daughters, and three sons, namely, Catherine, married to Wm. Delay; Elizabeth, married to Lewis Moser; Thomas, married to Margaret Gallagher, then Bridget Brennan; Mary, married to Thos. Mitchell; Esther, married to Andrew Walker; John, married to Julia Monahan; Frank, married to Ada Miller; John and Frank were twins; Ella, married to Jas. Bottomley and Anna, married to Lewis Olson, then Aaron Haenel.

ORGANIZATION OF BOROUGH

Committee: Jennie Brishko, Margaret Jones, Margaret Pascoe, Michael Bitsko.

Before becoming a borough, Coaldale belonged to Rahn Township, which at one time was included in Walker Township. Walker Township, in turn, had been a part of Rush.

At the time Coaldale belonged to Rahn Township, it included, besides Coaldale, Owl Creek, Number Eleven, and Seek. It extended west as far as Federal St., Tamaqua and east as far as Lansford. North and south its boundary lines were Number Ten Mountain and Owl Creek Valley respectively.

In 1906, the prominent men of Coaldale held a meeting for the purposes of organizing a borough. That same year, the citizens of what is now Coaldale led chiefly by Dr. C. C. Gallagher, presented a petition to the Schuylkill County Court by whom a charter was granted. Thus, the borough was organized in June 1906.

Dr. C. C. Gallagher was elected the first Chief Burgess.

The first Councilmen were as follows:

Frank Malarkey, Pres.; Jas. McDyer, Andrew Boyle, John McGeehan, Chas. Melley, John Brennan, Steve Scope.

The burgesses in the order in which they served are:

Dennis Gildea, One Term; Harry Blaney, One Term; James Bynon, Two Terms; Evan Jones, Two Terms.

Evan Jones, the present burgess, has served two terms and has been re-elected for a third term. He is the only man thus far to serve as burgess of Coaldale for three terms.

The present Council consists of: Wm. Clements, Pres., eight years; John Puschack, Bernard O'Donnell, Jas. McGeehan, Geo. Zalesak, Anthony Miller, Ben Mitchell, Wm. Evans and Chas. Stanley.

The present chief of police is Jas. L. Gallagher. He served as chief when the borough was first incorporated.

Some of the first important improvements are the installation of a street lighting system and a sewerage system which is quite complete today.

IMMIGRATION AND GROWTH

Committee: Theodore Pavlick, Jennie Jezz, Arlene Fudge.

Rahn Township was named after Judge George Rahn, and was organized in 1860.

It is almost exclusively coal territory, although some attempts have been made at farming in Owl Creek Valley. Owl Creek is located south of Tamaqua.

This township was greatly reduced in size, population, and importance by the incorporation of the borough of Coaldale.

Rahn Township included Coaldale, Tamaqua and Seek Villages. Coal was mined in this township as early as 1858. but up to 1860 the output was small. In 1800, Chas. F. Shoener and Wm. Carter purchased the Greenwood Breaker property and commenced extensive developments. Mr. Shoener soon bought his partner's interest and invested a million dollars in perfecting the improvements which subsequently became very valuable.

During the first year the property yielded an income of \$50,000 a month. It was sold in 1866 for \$50,000. The breaker was burned in 1874. In 1878 the Lehigh Navigation and Coal Co. purchased this property.

The villages formerly in Rahn Township were: Bull Run, now included in Coaldale as one of its streets, and Gearytown, which is now Miner St., and Greenwood St. Centerville was located on the south side of Coaldale but has recently been abandoned because it is undermined. Spring Tunnel is located north of Centerville. Dry Hollow is located on the eastern part of Rahn Colliery. All were mining hamlets of transitory existence but of little commercial importance. Now all are included in the borough of Coaldale. The buildings of the mining villages were principally frame. The first houses were erected in 1864 in what was known as Bugtown, which is located on the main highway directly below the Coaldale State Hospital. Two years later, houses were built at old Coaldale, which is located on the extreme eastern part, now the east ward. New Coaldale, which is now the middle ward, was begun in about 1849. New Coaldale, or New Wales, began to attract attention in 1868 and buildings were erected on the line between Schuylkill and Carbon Counties in 1870.

Gearytown was named in honor of Governor John W. Geary. Its first dwelling was erected in 1866 and was occupied by Richard Boyd.

Coaldale has been noted as the center of extensive mining operations since 1864. Many developments were made in this prolific field at Coaldale, in the Panther Creek Valley, in Dry Hollow and elsewhere. One opening on the mammoth vein reached an average thickness of 34 feet though in places this vein is 249 feet thick with apparently an inexhaustible supply of coal.

Coaldale village had a population of 1,849 in 1890 and Seek village had a population of 658 in 1890. Most of the early immigrants were German, Welsh, English and Irish. In later years the Slavs, Polish, Lithuanians and Russians came. The first Slav coming here was John Shigo. The first Polish immigrants were Joseph Costello and Peter Jabbo. The first Lithuanians were Adam Adamaitis and Frank Bugaravage. The first Hebrew was Jacob Rochman. The first Russian Orthodox was Wasil Palansky.

In the 1930 census the population of Coaldale was 6,921; Male, 3,591; Female, 3,330; White, 6,921; Native Total, 5,411; Native Parentage, 1,777; Foreign or Mixed, 3,634; Under five years, 747; between five and 14 years, 1,956; between 15 and 24 years, 1,340; between 25 and 34, 826; between 35 and 44 years, 1,013; between 45 and 64 years, 907; 65 years and over, 130.

TRANSPORTATION

Committee—Mary Thomas, Jennie Eade, John L. Bench, John Brechkarik and Michael Petruny.

Before the advent of the railroads, stage coaches were the principal means of transportation. On these

coaches they transported food as well as passengers. A stage coach ran through town twice daily, and the fee for people riding on this coach was fifty cents from Coaldale to Tamaqua.

After the stage coach went out of existence, the street car came into use. In the fall of 1897 the road was opened from Lansford to Mauch Chunk, later it extended from Lansford to Tamaqua then to Middleport. At this point the passengers had to change cars to go to Pottsville.

The route from Middleport to Mauch Chunk was owned by the Eastern Pennsylvania Railway Company.

The other trolley route from Middleport to Pottsville was owned by the Schuylkill Electric Railway Co. This railway was opened on Dec. 22nd, 1890, seven years before the Eastern Pennsylvania Railway constructed its line.

On Feb. 10th, 1923, the stockholders of the Eastern Penna. Railway Co. and ten subsidiary companies voted in favor of the consolidation of all these interests into one company to be known as the Eastern Penna. Power and Railway Co. On Nov. 17th, 1927, the Eastern Penna. Power and Railway Co. dispensed with the trolley cars, and substituted buses. The buses are still in operation and run from Mauch Chunk to Pottsville.

On Jan. 6, 1934, at eight o'clock an accident occurred at the foot of No. 11 hill about a quarter of a mile from Coaldale Borough boundary line. The bus crashed against a concrete abutment.

In this accident one person, Louis Barrett, aged 48 of Seek, was killed. Twenty-one others were injured.

Roads and Old Trails

The first dirt road that passed through Coaldale was built between the year of 1815 and 1819.

It started at Dutch Hill (Tamaqua) came east along the side of the mountain at No. 10 Colliery and passed through what is now the No. 10 culm bank. It then turned south and branched, one part going up through No. 11 along the tunnel mouth and up over the mountain into Owl Creek. The other road went through Manila Grove, extended south to the base of the mountain and turned left at Summit Hill. Later on a connection was made at No. 10 Colliery joining the road at Seek.

Another road also led from what is now Second St. in Coaldale, formerly called Thompson Street, continued south to its connection with the Tamaqua-Summit Hill stage coach road and continued over the mountain to Owl Creek. Another trail, which was used to a great extent and is still in existence, started from the old Moser's Farm, situated at the base of the Broad Mountain directly north of what is now Railroad St. and continued to No. 12 over the Mountain into Greenwood.

Railroads

The first railroads built through Coaldale were those for the accommodation of the coal trade.

The cars were drawn by horses, usually on a forty inch gauge. The rails were made of four by six inch rod timber. The ties were notched to receive the rails. The notches were wider than the rail and wooden keys were used to maintain the proper gauge and prevent the rails from spreading. There was a flat iron bar from one-half inch to two and a half top of the rail to obviate the wearing of the wood by the friction of the car wheels and contribute to the ease of draft. Lateral roads of this character were established at an early date to connect the mine with those which conveyed the coal to the canal. They

continue to the present as auxiliaries to the steam railroads.

The route of this railroad that first ran through Coaldale started at Spring Tunnel. From Spring Tunnel it continued to the east of Centerville. It then ran into Carbon County to a small village called Sayersville. From this point it continued northward into what is now called No. 7. There was also a railroad which carried coal from one of the premier mines called Foster's. This railroad started from Foster's tunnel continued up Kline's plane, which is now called the first plane, and met the first railroad at Spring Tunnel.

The Nesquehoning Railroad was chartered April 12, 1861. The line was built from Carbon County through Coaldale to Tamaqua and radiated to coal lands in the vicinity. It was leased and operated by the Lehigh Coal Co., who subsequently leased it to the Central Railroad Company of New Jersey.

The Streets and State Highways of Coaldale

The first street paving was done in Coaldale in the year of 1923. The contractor for this paving was John A. O'Donnell, of Summit Hill.

The engineer was Wm. Reese, of Lansford. The streets in the order they were paved are as follows: On First St. from Water St. to Ridge St.; on Ridge St. from Second St. to First St. and on Second St. from Water St. to Ruddle St. These streets were paved with brick from curb to curb.

The second paving was the State Highway in the year of 1926. The contractor was E. S. Carson of New Jersey. This paving started at the Coaldale Borough line west of Seek, which is a continuation of Greenwood St., Seek. It then continued through Bugtown to Water St., Coaldale. From this point it continued to the

Schuylkill-Carbon County boundary line which is the east borough boundary line of Coaldale.

The third paving was done in 1929. The contractor was Chas. Riebe of Lansford and the engineer, Wm. Reese of Lansford.

The streets in the order of their paving are as follows: On Ruddle St. from Fourth to Second St.; on Phillips St. from Fourth to Second St.; on Ridge St. from Fourth to Second St.; on Third St. from Ridge to High St. These streets were concrete from curb to curb.

In 1930 the next paving was done, the contractor was Wilston and the engineer was Wm. Reese of Lansford. The streets were paved as follows: On Phillips St. from Fourth St. to Seventh St.; on High St. from First St. to Fifth St.; on First St. from Ridge St. to High St.; on Phillips St. from Second St. to East St.

The cost of the paving from 1929 to 1930 was \$180,000. The total cost of the paving from 1923 to 1930 was about \$350,000.

The present 1933-34 project which is under control of CWA or better known as the Civil Works Administration, is a black top macadam highway starting on Phillips St. at Seventh St. The construction of this road began Monday, Dec. 4th, 1933. The road will continue from Phillips St. westward down Kline's Hill whence it proceeds to Bull Run St., Seek. At this latter point it makes connections with the State Highway route 209 at the Primitive Methodist Church which is situated on Greenwood St., Seek.

POST-OFFICES

Committee: John Sofsky, Mike Bench.

The first post-master was Charley Gosliey. Charley had been previously a clerk at the Lansford

Supply Store, one of the Valley's first business places. On becoming postmaster, Gosliey opened a small store in Coaldale, corner of First and Water Sts. where J. M. Pislak now resides. This served as the first post-office; here the mail was received from the stage coach. Gosliey held the postmastership for two terms.

The second postmaster, Rev. D. E. Hughes, was the preacher of the First Welsh Church in Coaldale, (located at the northeast corner of Third and Ridge Sts.) and was also the first squire of Coaldale. When postmaster Hughes took office, he lived at the S. W. corner of First and Water Sts. (across the street from the first post-office) and here, in addition to the usual small store, he conducted the activities of postmaster, squire, and preacher. The stage coach carried the mail during the first two years of his term, after which it was supplanted by the first railroad. Just before his term was over Postmaster Hughes moved the post-office to its original location across the street.

Tom Bradbury, the third postmaster, moved his post-office (and incidentally a cigar store) to the center of the town, then about what is now 126 E. Ruddle St., a gesture of convenience to the townsfolks. The postoffice-store was later moved to the property of Patrick Bonner, near the present site of 104 E. Ruddle St. Postmaster Bradbury served two terms.

The fourth postmaster was Captain Winlock. He retained office at the Bonner's residence for a short time, but later moved it to the Peter O'Donnell property at 148 E. Ruddle St. Here at first he also had a small grocery store, but, as the postal business increased, he

dropped the latter. Postmaster Winlock served two terms.

Succeeding Captain Winlock was Frank Barrett. Mr. Barrett retained his office at the O'Donnell residence for a short time, but this proved inadequate and in the second year as postmaster he established an office for the mail only. This was located at what is now 40 E. Ruddle St. Mr. Barrett installed mail boxes and made many improvements which helped the post-office secure a good rating among the third class offices of Penna. Mr. Barrett was postmaster for eleven years.

Then came the terms of Edward Cavanaugh. He at first had his office at the John R. Boyle property, at 116 E. Ridge St., but, after a few years here he moved it to where he now lives, near the corner of Second and Phillips Sts. Here he made improvements, installing new, improved mail boxes and securing free delivery. The first mail carriers were Leonard Melley, and Paul Ryan, both appointed in 1921. Postmaster Cavanaugh served two terms.

The seventh Postmaster is Daniel Jones. For his first term he kept his office at the Cavanaugh residence. At the beginning of his second term, however, he moved it to where it now stands, 124 E. Ruddle St. During Mr. Jones' second term another mail carrier was added, this making a total of three. Mr. Jones is now serving his third term.

SCENIC BEAUTY

Committee: Eleanor Livingood,
Miriam Jones, Gwen Lewis.

Coaldale and environs, in the year 1871, constituted as beautiful a sight as one might wish to see. It nestled between two beautiful mountains, Pitch Mountain and Sharp Mountain.

Pitch Mountain, situated north of Coaldale, was covered with oak and maple trees, with an odd pine here and there.

Sharp Mountain, situated south of Coaldale, was also called Pine Mountain because most of it was closely grown with pine trees. It had an odd oak tree growing on the summit here and there. Underneath the pine trees grew mountain grass. This was dotted with bushes of baby laurel which grew about a foot high and which bore flowers of a deep rose color. It was also thickly grown with huckleberry and elderberry bushes which were intermixed with rhododendrons.

On the east end of Sharp Mountain was a large ice cave where people procured ice to preserve their food. The ice was said to be pure, which is the reason for its being used so extensively. Everybody procured their own ice when they needed it. It was carried to and fro in dishpans, buckets, etc. The cave remains to this day, but it is condemned, because it is undermined. However, the ice is just as abundant as ever and is just as good.

East of Coaldale was situated a large forest consisting of pine and spruce trees which grew tall and stately. It was a great recreation center where the schools and churches held most of their picnics.

West of Coaldale was a large amusement park called Manila Grove. It received its name from the battle of Manila, which was fought about the time the park was opened. Manila Grove was developed by the Eastern Pennsylvania Traction Co. The park contained many amusements.

In the park grew many oak and pine trees together with a berry called the "haw" which the people frequently picked. The berry was the fruit of the hawthorne bush, and at that time was considered very palatable. Due to the frequent pickings,

this berry has become almost extinct.

On the east exit of Manila Grove was a most gorgeous array of mountain laurel which covered the western part of Coaldale.

The color of these flowers was rose. They were the size of a full grown peony, with a background of mountain grass which made one think they were mounted on green velvet. They were so pretty that people came on excursions (when transportation was possible) to pick the laurel and see the beautiful picture they presented. The laurels were sent to New York to the sick and the unfortunate who otherwise would never have had the opportunity of seeing them. Because of these laurels, the hill was called Laurel Hill. The hill extended east as far as Fifth St., and west as far as Seventh St. It also extended north as far as Ruddle St., and as far south as Lehigh St.

At the foot of this hill, a spring cut its way down into the creek. This spring, used as a water spout by the inhabitants of Coaldale, was a great gathering place as it was the only place for the people of Coaldale to obtain water.

The previous paragraphs describe the scenery before it was marred by the coal industry.

MINES DESTROYED BEAUTY

The two mountains between which Coaldale lies are now marred by the mining industry. Sharp Mountain which was once beautiful is now all scarred and ripped up by steam shovels, and Pitch Mountain which was also very beautiful is almost entirely covered and hidden from sight by the large rock and slate bank which covers it.

At the eastern part of Coaldale lies a large swamp. It is not at this time as popular a spot as it was years ago. No church or school picnics are held there now. In fact, it is a place for dumping refuse, such as coal dirt, that is washed down into

the swamp from the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co., breakers.

At the northeastern part of Coaldale is situated the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co. breaker.

In the western part of Coaldale lies Manila Grove which has also lost its popularity as a recreation center since the trolley cars are gone. The amusements in the park have been taken away.

Where the laurels grew, homes were built. These homes ruined the laurels and the only thing that stands today to remind us of them is the name Laurel Hill.

Coaldale gradually has grown until it now has a population of 6,921 people. There are exactly fifteen streets and four avenues in Coaldale. There are eight streets that run north and south. They are named in their order—First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh. There are seven that run east and west. They are called (from south to north)—Lehigh, High, Phillip, Ruddle, Ridge, Water and Railroad. The avenues are Moser, Fisher, Early, and Howard. The majority of these streets and avenues are paved.

Arbor Day Project

This year the Senior Class of Coaldale High School will beautify its school and town by planting shrubbery in front of the school as an Arbor Day project.

During the year 1932, the Senior Class planted one hundred and eleven elm trees and one Norway maple tree on Phillip St., extending from East St. to Seventh St. These beautiful American elm trees border both sides of this street.

Each one of these was bought by a student of the Coaldale High School, or by property owners. They were planted on Phillip St. by the Coaldale High School students on Arbor Day, 1932, and were dedicated to a friend or ideal at a regular assembly program, by the person who bought

the tree. In future years, each one of these trees will bear a shield with the desired inscription engraved on it.

The following persons took part in the dedicatory program:

A. C. Moser, principal of the Coaldale High School, who presided as chairman; Carl Neumiller, chief forester of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co., who gave instructions concerning the planting of the trees, and was also the supervisor of the tree planting project; Thos. D. Lewis, general manager of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co.; W. E. Montgomery from the State Forestry Department, who gave a talk on 'Growing Elm Trees', and J. E. Gildea, superintendent of the Coaldale Schools who heartily commended the project.

At the dedication, each home-room teacher had a pupil represent her home room by delivering a dedication speech at assembly. The pupils who took part in the dedication were: David Jefferies, Grade 12-A, Teacher T. P. Raymer; Steve Rajnic, Grade 12-B, Teacher Miss Laigon; Bernard Stevens, Grade 11-A, Teacher Mr. Melley; Wm. Stembrosky, Grade 11-B, Teacher Mr. Keebler; August Pastucha, Grade 10-A, Teacher Miss Melioris; Mary Uzun, Grade 10-B, Teacher Miss McElhenney; Louise West, Grade 9-A, Teacher Miss Filer; Mary Polonsky, Grade 9-B, Teacher Miss Margaret A. Bonner; Robert Parfitt, Grade 9-C, Teacher Mr. Harvey; Sara Morgans, Grade 9-D, Teacher Mr. Berger; Wm. Moran, Grade 8-A, Teacher Miss Mitchell; Seymour Schonberger, Grade 8-B, Teacher Miss Willing; Theo. Berger, Grade 8-C, Teacher Miss Bonner; Sophie Zulic, Grade 8-B, Teacher Miss Sharpe; Geo. Ferki, Grade 8-E, Teacher Miss McLean.

Between First Street and East Street on the North Side, Miss Margaret A. Bonner had her pupils of the Class of '36 plant the trees with Wm. Moneta of the Senior Class pre-

siding as Chairman. The trees were dedicated to the following:

Tree No. 1—in honor of Miss Ella Mitchell, a teacher of the Coaldale High School, planted by the Class of '36; No. 2—in honor of Class of '36, by the Class of '36; No. 3—in memory of the Etiquette Club of the Coaldale High School, year 1932; No. 4—in memory of the Junior Dramatic Club, year 1932; No. 5—in honor of the class of 1936-9-D; No. 6—in memory of Michael Melley; No. 7—in memory of Mrs. Michael Melley; No. 8—in memory of Mrs. Jos. F. Melley; No. 9—in honor of Dr. C. C. Gallagher, the first burgess of Coaldale.

First Street to East Street on the South Side: Tree No. 1—in memory of her parents, planted by Miss Ella Mitchell; No. 2—in honor of Michael Shubeck, a World War veteran; No. 3—in memory of Russell Shubeck; No. 4—in memory of Billy Scarloss; No. 5—in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Holoviak.

Between First Street and Second Street on the South side; Miss McLean had her pupils plant their trees, with Wm. Moneta as Chairman. These trees were dedicated in honor of the following: Tree No. 1—in honor of Class '36 by 8-D; No. 2—in honor of Miss Ethlyn McLean, planted by the class of '36; No. 3—in memory of Miss L. Early; No. 4—in memory of Michael Puschak, World War veteran.

Between First Street and Second Street, on the north side, Miss Mitchell, a teacher of the Coaldale High School, with the same Chairman as before presiding, had her pupils plant their trees as follows: Tree No. 1—in memory of Edw. Cavanaugh, 2nd; No. 2—in honor of Joyce Kilmer's "Trees".

Between Second Street and Third Street on the north side, Miss McElhenny with Margaret Bartal, a Senior of the Coaldale High School, presiding as Chairman, had her

pupils plant their trees in honor of the following: Tree No. 1—in memory of John McLean; No. 2—in honor of James McDyre, World War veteran; No. 3—in honor of Luch Brunda; No. 4—in honor of John Elliott; No. 5—in memory of James Mundy; No. 6—in memory of William Mitchell; No. 7—in memory of Bernard Boyle; No. 8—in memory of Samuel Boyle, Sr.; No. 9—in memory of her mother, planted by Margaret Bartal.

Between Second Street and Third St. on the South side, Mr. Harvey with Mildred Jones, a Senior of the Coaldale High School, presiding as Chairman, had his pupils plant their trees in honor of the following: Tree No. 1—in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Pavlik; No. 2—in memory of the Travel Club of the year 1934; No. 3—in honor of Randolph Harvey; No. 4—in honor of Class of 1935, by Class 9-C; No. 5—in memory of the Etiquette Club of C. H. S., year 1932; No. 6—in memory of classmate, Alexander Sachon, Class '34; No. 7—in honor of Class '34, Class 10-B; No. 8—in honor of the parents of Class '34; No. 9—in memory of George Washington's Bicentennial Anniversary; No. 10—in honor of John Holmes; No. 11—in honor of Jas. Gallagher, Chief of Police of Coaldale; No. 12—in honor of Patrick Gaffney; No. 13—in memory of Coaldale High School's first football team; No. 14—in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Adam Bartal.

Between Third Street and Fourth Street on the north side, Miss Sharpe, with Bertrick Keast, a Senior of the Coaldale High School, presiding as Chairman, had her pupils plant their trees in honor of the following: Tree No. 1—in memory of David Phillips, Sr., planted by the Class of '36; No. 2—in honor of Thomas Lewis, manager, of L. C. & N. Co.; No. 3—in memory of her parents, planted by Bertrick Keast; No. 4—in memory of Miss Helen Duffy—No. 5—in honor of

Chas. Sharpe, first basketball coach of C. H. S.; No. 6—in honor of her parents, by Anna Breznaka; No. 7—in honor of her children, by Mrs. Anna Breznaka; No. 8—in memory of Daniel McLean, Civil War veteran; No. 9—in memory of Daniel McLean, Civil War veteran; No. 10—in honor of parents, by Grace Ann Griffiths.

Miss Sharpe planted a tree in front of her home in honor of her Class '36-Grade 8-E.

Between Third St. and Fourth St. on the south side, Mr. Keebler with Steve Rajnic, a Senior presiding as Chairman, had his pupils plant their trees in honor of the following: Tree No. 1—in memory of Richard Gibbons; No. 2—in memory of his father, by Rudy Derdyl; No. 3—in memory of his father, by Billy Arner; No. 4—in memory of his mother, by John Shear; No. 5—in memory of his mother, by Dan Zeigler; No. 6—in memory of her dad, by Jeanette Fignar; No. 7—in honor of O. S. Keebler, by Class of '33; No. 8—in honor of the mothers of the Class of '33; No. 9—in honor of the fathers of the Class of '33; No. 10—in memory of Mike Benca, by the Class of '33; No. 11—in honor of John J. Horn, by the Class of '33; No. 12—in honor of Miss M. A. Bonner; No. 13—in honor of T. P. Raymer; No. 14—in honor of Miss McElhenny; No. 15—in honor of Miss Ada Meredith; No. 16—in honor of Miss Willing; No. 17—in memory of David James, and Mrs. Margaret James.

Between Fourth Street and Fifth Street on the north side, Mr. Berger, with Benjamin Welsh, a Senior presiding as Chairman, had his pupils plant their trees in honor of the following: Tree No. 1—in honor of Wilbur Berger, by the Class of '35; No. 2—in honor of parents, Class of '35, by 9-A; No. 3—in honor of Miss Cecelia Sharpe; No. 4—in honor of Miss Cecelia Sharpe; No. 5—in honor of Agnes Elliott, by Alice Evans; No. 6—in honor of Irvin Murphy, by An-

thony Lakitsky; No. 7—in honor of her parents by Miss Mary Watkins; No. 8—in honor of baby, Martin Polansky; No. 9—in honor of Steve Polansky; No. 10—in honor of Miss Cred Jones; No. 11—in honor of Class of '35 by 9-A; No. 12—in honor of Miss Mildred Yemm; No. 13—in memory of Orville Jones; No. 14—in honor of A. C. Neumiller.

Between Fourth St. and Fifth St. on the south side, Miss Mary Bonner, with George Durilla, a Senior, presiding as Chairman, had her pupils plant their trees as follows: Tree No. 1—in honor of his parents, by Daniel Jones, Jr.; No. 2—in honor of the Gewehr Shubeck Post; No. 3—in memory of Walter Gewehr; No. 4—in memory of John Shubeck; No. 5—in honor of Daniel Barron; No. 6—in memory of Walter Dalto; No. 7—in honor of George K. Foster; No. 8—in honor of Walter Evans; No. 9—in honor of Miss Mary Bonner, by Class of '36; No. 10—in memory of his father, by Frank Boyle; No. 11—in memory of Chas. F. Goslie, first postmaster of Coaldale; No. 12—in memory of R. C. Breyfogle, first pastor of the Evangelical Church; No. 13—in memory of David E. Hughes, first minister of the English Congregational Church; No. 14—in memory of Mary Foster, first white child born in Coaldale.

Between Fifth St. and Sixth St. on the south side, Mr. Melley with Elizabeth Conahan presiding as Chairman, had his pupils plant their trees as follows: Tree No. 1—in honor of Chas. Watkins; No. 2—in memory of Ruth Jones, by Catherine Everhart; No. 3—in honor of Thomas J. Evans; No. 4—in honor of A. C. Moser; No. 5—in honor of Burk Harvey; No. 6—in honor of Thomas West; No. 7—in honor of David Yemm; No. 8—in honor of Bernard Duffy; No. 9—in honor of John E. Gildea; No. 10—in honor of Jacob Berger; No. 11—in honor of Wm. Clements.

Between Fifth St. and Sixth St. on the north side, Miss Willing with Elizabeth Conahan, a Senior presiding as Chairman, had her pupils plant the trees in honor of the following: Tree No. 1—in honor of the Class of '36, by 8-B; No. 2—in memory of Edward Gallagher; No. 3—in memory of Daniel Boyle; No. 4—in honor of Miss Adel Laigon, by Commercial Class, '32; No. 5—in memory of John Dally, Jr., by Margaret Bynon; No. 7—in memory of Alfred Bolinsky, World War veteran; No. 8—in honor of Class '33, by 11-A; No. 9—in honor of Class '33, by 11-A; No. 10—in honor of Joseph Julo, and Oscar Swenson; No. 11—in honor of L. J. Melley, by Class of '33; No. 12—in honor of Patrick Boyle; No. 13—in honor of John Boyle.

Miss Willing planted a tree in front of her home in honor of her parents.

Between Sixth St. and Seventh St. on the north side, Miss Melioris, with Ellen Revytak, Senior, presiding as Chairman, had her pupils plant their trees in honor of the following: Tree No. 1—in honor of her parents, by Marion Jones; No. 2—in honor of the parents of the Class of '34, by 10-A; No. 3—in honor of the students of the Class of '34, by 10-A; No. 4—in honor of Miss Melioris, by the Class of '34; No. 5—in memory of Mrs. Margaret A. Jones, by Margaret Pascoe; No. 6—in memory of Thomas West, Jr., by Evan Jones, Jr.; No. 7—in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Korsak.

Between Sixth St. and Seventh St. on the south side, Miss Filer, with Pete Cheplick, presiding as Chairman, had her pupils plant their trees in honor of the following: Tree No. 1—in memory of her mother, by Mrs. Dora Cheplick; No. 2—in honor of John Karaitis; No. 3—in memory of Phillip Ginter, discoverer of coal; No. 4—in memory of Graham Kennedy, first school teacher in Coaldale;

No. 5—in honor of James McIntyre, World War veteran; No. 6—in honor of his parents, Billy Miller; No. 7—in honor of "Mickey", by Tony Miller; No. 8—in honor of Class '35, by 9-B; No. 9—in honor of Miss Pearl Filer, by Class of '35; No. 10—in honor of Helen.

Seniors Planted Hedge

Last year in 1933, the Seniors had a project for Arbor Day in which they planted hedge around the athletic field. This year, the Seniors project for Arbor Day will be to plant shrubbery in front of the school.

NEWSPAPERS

Committee: Michael Bench
Grace Delay, Andrew Hedash,
John Bench.

The Toiler's Defense saw the light of day in Coaldale on Oct. 20, 1904, and led a stormy career until 1919, when it became part of the Panther Creek News, which gave up the fight at the end of a few years' struggle.

The Defense was given birth as the mouthpiece of the United Mine Workers; its sponsors were men identified with the organization in an official capacity. John F. McElhenney (deceased) was president of the cooperative venture, while Harry F. Blaney was secy.-treas. Victor J. Dougherty, identified with a daily newspaper venture in Perth Amboy, N. J., was imported to guide the enterprise.

It soon assumed a high place in newspaperdom by the aggressiveness of its editorial spirit, and was widely quoted. Mr. Dougherty severed his connection with the defense in 1912 to return to the daily newspaper field in Scranton and Hazleton. He returned to the management in 1915, only to resign in 1919

to be associated with the Lansford Record.

"New Russia"—the only Russian newspaper in Coaldale—was established by Rev. Jos. Federonko, in 1914. The paper was edited in Coaldale; the printing was done in New York City. It was a semi-monthly publication. Many prominent Russian journalists in the United States contributed articles on politics, religion and literature.

This newspaper was the organ of the "Russian National Organization," composed wholly of immigrants from Russia, Carpatho-Russia and Galieia. The newspaper and the organization, however, existed only about three and a half years. There were approximately 1,500 subscribers to the publication as long as it lasted.

The Panther Creek News was a continuation of The Toilers Defense. It was organized by the United Mine Workers of America, two and a half years after The Toilers Defense was abandoned. In order to make sure of a sound start financially, the miners assessed themselves a day's wages, which were put into a general fund to be used to pay all necessary expenses. It was called "The Panther Creek News."

At one time the people of this valley were constantly in danger of being attacked by the panthers, whose haunts were centered in this valley. The Panthers became so numerous that it was necessary for one to be alert every moment he was out of the house. Soon this valley became known as the Panther Creek Valley, therefore the title, "The Panther Creek News."

The staff that put out the first issue of this paper was as follows: Edw. Donahue, Jas. J. Furey, Sue Boyle, Margaret McElhenney and Patrick Kelley. Edw. Donahue acted as editor-in-chief.

The paper continued to be issued daily for a number of years until it was transferred to Hazleton, where it now continues as a weekly paper under the title "The Anthracite Miners."

COALDALE FOOTBALL

By James H. Gildea

A story of Coaldale would not be complete without delving back into its football history, because football gave to Coaldale more advertising than any other enterprise, and because the people of Coaldale point with pride to the achievements of their teams, and claim football reflects credit on town loyalty, and attests to the fair dealing of all associated in any way with the game.

Football, at the turn of the last century, was a new game to all sections of the coal region. Strictly speaking, it was a college game. The high schools had not yet taken it up, and college graduates being a rarity, few if any returned to regional towns bringing with them the desire to introduce football.

The Neumuller brothers, of Lansford, were the exception. Dr. Will Neumuller, the dentist, and Carl Neumuller, forester for the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co., together with the Jones brothers, Severus and Franklin, were the real pioneers in Coaldale football. Chief of Police "Foag" Gallagher, Nick Hollywood, Paddy Bonner, "Schoder" Boyle, Big Bill Evans, John Bugerevich, and others of the early days, can still tell of the famous guards play, when five yards was the distance to be gained on a series of downs, and when pushing until the man with the call called "down" was the signal for another lineup.

Memory is a fickle jade to draw from, especially when the writer

goes back to the time he was 12 years of age, but still keen in football recollection is memory of a notable clash between a combined Coaldale-Lansford team, and a team representing soldiers encamped at Manila Grove during the 1902 mine strike. The winner of the game escapes memory, but the game itself served to draw all the soldiers to the football field, while an impromptu raid was made on No. 4 breaker, so that even in those early days the boys knew their signals.

Thos. Evans was among the backs. Clarence Starr, chief engineer for L. C. & N. Co., was coach and fullback. Dr. Will Neumuller and his brother, Carl, alternated at quarterback, with Franklin Jones and Tommy West fitting into the combination at all times. Jimmy Middleton was center, Jimmy Kennedy, Bill Evans and Owen Boyle, guards; John Kelly and George Morral, tackles, and John West, Severus Jones and Jack Burton, ends.

The "Big Team" of 1905 was succeeded at times by Coaldale Juniors, and in later days by the High School and "Old Street" squads. Names prominent in that period included John "Croppy" Melley, "Kid" Hill, Jim West, Jimmy Lithgow, Big Smith, Paddy Malloy, Dave West, Tom Mitchell, Charlie Shellhammer and others of the immortal crew, who gave Coaldale real rivalry when the "Old Street" clashed with the "High School," which meant that the players went to school some 10 or 12 years earlier. John Melley was a real football player.

Fred Weaver, of Coaldale, now of Lansford, was the actuating motive behind football in the period 1905 to 1912. As manager and coach he kept interest alive. Weaver is generally credited with being the founder of Coaldale football, though Dave Williams, now a ticket agent in the

P. & R. terminal at Phila., is generally conceded to be the man to bring the first football to Coaldale.

Local rivalry developed a series of games between a new "Old Street" and the Rosebuds and 1912 saw the real beginning of Coaldale football, the birth of the later day "Big Green." The Old Street had had Jim Gildea as manager and center, with "Blue" Bonner at fullback. Three games were played in this 1912 series. Two scoreless ties were followed by a Thanksgiving Day victory for the Old Street, when "Blue" crashed through for the winning touchdown. The quarterback on the Rosebuds was Irvin Murphy, later day coach of the High School, and a man who shared with Gildea and Bonner in shaping the town's football destiny. Danny Moser was another old-timer.

1913 saw the real beginning of the "Big Green."

Again in 1914, a money game with Lansford was the season's high spot. \$500 was waged on the outcome of the game. \$650 was taken in at 25c admission by those anxious to see how the game would come out, and when it broke up, after Coaldale scored its second touchdown to break a 7-7 tie, the game went down in history as the famous 50-50 game. The lineup of the 1914 team included Jimmy Filer, center; Leo Kennedy and Caleb James, guards; Owen Boyle, Dan Bonner, "Scoop" Boyle and "Bub" Melley, tackles; Morgan Boyle, "Rub" Morgans and Willie Morrall, ends; Irvin Murphy and Col. McFadden, quarterbacks; "Blue" Bonner, Tommy West, John Ward, Dan Boyle, Evie Evans, halfbacks, and Dan Moser, fullback. George Morrall, star of the 1905 team also donned a uniform for the big game, and did yeoman service at end, as did also that bright particular end of the new day, "P" McGeehan.

The Coaldale Football Team of 1903



This is a picture of one of the earliest football teams in Coaldale, in the year 1903. In the front row, reading from left to right, we find Thos. J. West, Geo. Morrell and John West.

In the center row: Wm. Holmes, Warren Homes, Burke Harvey and David Reese.

In the back row: Geo. Yemm, Wm Evans, Fred Weaver, Mgr. Carl Neumuller, Clarence Starr and John Kelly.

The 1914 team gave to the later day Big Greens, "Blue" Bonner, "Bub" Melley and "Scoop" Boyle, but rivaling the best Coaldale ever produced was the team of 1916, with Dan Moser, Irv. Murphy, Dan Bonner and "P" McGeehan, hold-overs from the 1914 team, together with Bonner, Boyle and Melley.

"Buzz" Flannagan, Herman Meyer and 1916 were the real turning points of Coaldale football. Flannagan brought to Coaldale a dash, a daring and football brilliancy that attracted attention. Herman Meyer gave Coaldale a sense of decency and fair dealing that always remained as the team's guiding light.

Three games were played with Pottsville in 1916, outstanding games in the season. Coaldale lined up with "Jack" Honeyboy Evans at center; John Homick, Dan Bonner and Ed Boyle at guards; "Bub" Melley and Joe Garland at tackles; "Howie" Miller and "P" McGeehan, ends; with Charlie Sharpe and Morgan Boyle, sub-ends; Irvin Murphy, quarterback; "Blue" Bonner and "Buzz" Flannagan, halfbacks; Dan Moser, fullback, and Hen Boock and "Red" McMichael in the role of substitutes.

Rivalry with Shenandoah dates back to 1916 though the Norks, Dr. Andy and Johnny, had thrown Coaldale for a 6-0 defeat the previous year at Coaldale.

The war brought back young men trained to endure the fight. Their addition to the squad in 1919 resulted in a famous victory over Tamaqua made notable by "Tiny" Maxwell's first visit to a coal region game. Armistice Day, 1919, saw the teams clash. Coaldale had the nucleus of its great championship team then in process of being molded together. Vince Gildea and Len Lithgow at quarterbacks; Blue

Bonner, Joe Negri, Mike Roman, John Melley, Ben Herring, backs; Mike Pavlik, Metro Roadside, "P" McGeehan and Morgan Boyle, ends; Joe Garland and "Bub" Melley, tackles; Ab Morgans and Simon Lewchek, guards; "Scoop" Boyle, sub, and the one and only "Jack" Honeyboy Evans at center. Twenty-eight first downs against none for Tamaqua were plowed up and down the Tamaqua gridiron before "Bub" Melley on a tackle back play plowed over for a winning touchdown. Gildea had scored previously on a nicely placed field goal.

The 1921-22-23 champions won the cup against Gilberton, Shenandoah, Pottsville.

The 1923 team was Coaldale's proudest boast. Let's see how they lined up:

Backs—"Blue" Bonner, Jack Chapman, Earl Potteiger, Hen Boock, Bull Newton, Len Lithgow, Ben Herring, Jack McDonald, Vince Gildea, Steve Zaleha, Les Asplundh, "Frojer" Giltner.

Ends—Bill Evans, Stan Giltner, "GooGoo" Davis, Mike Pavlik, Metro Roadside.

Linemen—Joe Garland, "Bub" Melley, Tom Chapman, Bob Hartwig, Irvin Schwartz, E. Boyle, Simon Lewchek, Jack "Honeyboy" Evans.

Those were the days. Champions in every respect of the word. Guests of Atlantic City. Feted in Phila. A fire on Water St. Big game on the field. Chief Gallagher walking the side lines asking enough volunteers to fight the fire to please leave the game. Battles with Frankford. Lud Wray and "Honeyboy"; what a train of memories the old days revive. The old days are gone. Pottsville with its world champion Maroons had to play the best it knew how to lower the Big Green colors in 1924. Then the strike of

1925. Games at Staten Island. Three visits to Atlantic City. The name Coaldale still atop the pinnacle.

Later day efforts saw the collapse of the Eastern League, and failure to revive interest through reorganization of the Anthracite League.

Living again the old days suggests the procedure necessary to its revival. Coaldale football, an integral part of the town, must not be permitted to die.

The Big Green, in constant existence since 1913, has attained its majority, and must keep going.

THE CHURCHES

Committee: Helen Pisklak, Helen Slaby, Joseph Korsak, Irene Demyanovich, Jane Harris, Zelda McLean, Franklyn Gewehr, Mike Shatkowsky, John Slaby, Mike Kashubiac, Daniel Pisanic, Mike Pavlovich, Weldon Watkins, Catherine Holowlak, Margaret Pascoe, Louise Morrall, Mary Uzup, Olga Scarloss, Hugh McGinty, Walter Scarloss, Boris Kudrikoff, Samuel Kuba, Harry Hrinda, John Bench.

The Evangelical Church

The people of the Evangelical denomination when first organized did not have a church in which to worship. They met in houses of the members of the congregation. They did not have a minister but men from the congregation led the services. In 1869, a chapel was built with Rev. S. C. Breyfogel as the pastor.

A few years later, the people of the church were separated into two different groups. One was called the United Evangelicals, the other group was called the Evangelicals. Both groups worshipped in the same church but at different times. One Sunday, the United Evangelicals would worship in the morning while the Evangelicals worshipped in the evening. Then the next Sunday the order was

reversed. This went on until the two groups came to an agreement.

The church at one time owned the land that the St. Mary's Parochial School is now on. They sold it to St. Mary's and remodeled the church with the money they received from the sale.

Some ministers who have served the Coaldale Church are as follows: Rev. S. C. Breyfogel, Rev. S. E. Lester, Rev. J. R. Workman, Rev. T. J. Reitz, Rev. I. Zimmerman, Rev. S. Brexton, Rev. L. S. Stahl, Rev. L. C. Updegrove.

The pastor of the church at present is Rev. C. C. Hoffman.

The board of trustees at present is as follows: Harry Eckart, Pres.; Robert Hoffman, Secy.; John Morall, Treas.; Wm. Hoffman, Raymond Hoffman, Daniel Herring, and James Lithgow.

St. John's Greek

The St. John's Greek Catholic Congregation was organized in the year of 1925. On June 15th of that year contractors Gerber and Cissell of Bethlehem completed the church. The cornerstone was laid in the church July, 1926, by the Bishop.

On Oct. 9, 1926, the first sermon was preached by Rev. Martyak, (who is also the Pastor of the Lansford Church). The first sermon was attended by 150 Greek families who reside in Coaldale.

The Trustees of the church are as follows: Andrew Ardos, Peter Holovach, Wash Bench, Michael Jabbo, Michael Strauss, Steve Matuschuck, Daniel Chroniak, Wash Horciphn, Daniel Chomak, Paul Zuydak.

St. Cyril's and Methodius

The Slovak people, before 1907, were combined with St. Michael's Church of Lansford at the time Father Lisicky was pastor.

When the church of Lansford was being built, the people of Coaldale also had in mind building, in Coal-

dale, a church and organizing a parish of their own. However, due to the lack of a clergyman they were obliged to wait until June, 1920, to set up their own parish.

Rev. N. J. Terna was named the first pastor of the St. Cyril's and Methodius Church. Due to the lack of funds to build a church, the Welsh Congregational Church on the corner of Ridge and Fourth Sts. was purchased. The same year the rectory was built and equipped.

The following year the lease was obtained for a plot of ground between Ridge and Ruddle Sts., from the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co., for a period of 99 years.

In 1922, the ground was broken for the building. The foundation for the Church was dug by the parishioners, with the help of local contractors who contributed the trucks and teams of horses. The plans were laid for a large, modern steel and brick building. Contractor Andrew Breslin was awarded the contract and on July 23, 1923, began working on the new project.

The cornerstone was laid Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 29, 1924. The first Mass was read on Christmas Day, 1924, but the official dedication did not take place until May 30, 1925. Bishop Dougherty, of Philadelphia, blessed the Church. He was assisted in these ceremonies by the neighboring town's priests.

In September, 1928, the Parochial school of St. Cyril's was established. At that time there were only six grades, but each year one was added until, in 1930, there were eight grades.

There are 385 Catholic Slovak families in Coaldale.

Primitive Methodist

Early in 1870, Richard Boyd, Sr., a devout Christian and earnest church worker, together with his wife and others held church services in the

Gerrytown school house, (about a half mile from where the present church is now situated).

About two years later, union church services were commenced. Various ministers and preachers from Tamaqua officiated. Some of these were as follows: Rev. Hare, (Episcopal), Rev. Savage, Rev. Spurr, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Sincock and Mrs. Prosser.

In 1875, Rev. Savage was again in Tamaqua, and in 1876 built the present church at a cost of \$1150. He was assisted in the work by J. Jones. Thos. Parry, Geo. Stacey, Richard Kitt, Samuel Goldsworthy, Sr., Geo. Willing, Sr., Thos. Willing, John Morgan, Phillip Evans and J. T. Williams.

This new church under the able leadership of Rev. Savage grew, and in the year 1878, Rev. Thos. Coburn became its first resident pastor. In 1881, under the leadership of Rev. E. Davis, a parsonage was built, at a cost of \$1500.

The church was remodeled and an addition built to it in 1896, under the pastorate of Rev. Joseph Sutcliffe at a cost of \$1000. During the pastorate of Rev. J. White, the basement was dug and turned into a beautiful meeting place for the Primary Department; also this was the time that the electric lights were installed in the church and parsonage.

After this nothing of a material nature was accomplished until the time of Rev. J. Ward, when the vestibule was added to the church, stained glass windows, and many other needed improvements about the church and parsonage were made at the cost of \$2600.

In 1926, a new carpet, piano, steam heating plant and other needed improvements were made at a cost of \$1500.

In 1929, under the pastorate of Rev. E. Seymour, two more rooms were

added to the parsonage with all modern equipment. The church again was remodeled at a cost of \$3500.

The pastors of the P. M. Church of Seek for the past 57 years were as follows: Rev. Daniel Savage, 1876-1878; Rev. Thomas Coburn, 1878-1880; Rev. Edward Davis, 1880-1882; Rev. Charles Spurr, 1882-1883; Rev. George Ball, 1883-1884; Rev. Henry Margretta, 1884-1885; Rev. George Jeffries, 1885-1887; Rev. Thomas Eva, 1887-1889; Rev. John Proud, 1889-1890; Rev. S. T. Nichols, 1890-1892; Rev. W. J. Richards, 1892-1894; Rev. J. N. Reseigh, 1894-1896; Rev. Joseph Sutcliffe, 1896-1897; Rev. Thomas Bell, 1897-1899; Rev. John Tyler, 1899-1901; Rev. Moses Harvey, 1901-1903; Rev. J. A. Tinker, 1903-1904; Rev. N. White, 1904-1906; Rev. T. J. Kelley, 1906-1907; N. White, 1907-1909; Rev. P. Browell, 1909-1910; Rev. G. W. Peters, 1910-1914; Rev. Wm. Acornly, 1914-1916; Rev. John Bath, 1916-1917; Rev. Isaac Davies, 1917-1919; Rev. P. Shoals, 1919-1920; Rev. J. Ward, 1920-1925; Rev. E. Seymour, 1925-1930; Rev. H. Hoyes, 1930—.

St. Mary's Russian Orthodox

In the years 1906-08 there began a religious war in Carpatho-Russia. To escape the persecution of their enemies, many Russian people immigrated to America and settled in Coaldale.

An Uniat church was built in Lansford. For a while this was the most important place among them but trouble soon began. The Russians were not satisfied with the Roman Catholic Religion. They felt the need of their own faith.

In the year 1909, the Russian people of Coaldale, Lansford, Hauto, and Nesquehoning decided to throw off the Roman yoke and take back the faith of their forefathers—the Russian Orthodox. In this matter

much aid was received from Prof. Elia Gregory Boruch and the great patriot Theodore Pluta (organizers of the parish).

Early in September, 1909, a meeting was called at which a great many persons gathered. Among them were Rev. Michael Fekula and the organizers Victor Hladik, Ieronim Lutsik, and John G. Boruch. At this meeting the people decided, unanimously, to be Orthodox and to ask Arch-Bishop Platon to receive them under the Orthodox mother-church.

Arch Bishop Platon sent Arch-Priest Alexander Hotovitsky, of New York, to bring the matter to a close. Under his chairmanship the first parish meeting was held on Sept. 26, 1909. Over 200 persons attended. The newly formed parish was asked if all wished to be Orthodox, and they answered in the affirmative. The officers were elected at this meeting and other matters were settled.

On the next day, Sept. 27, the first Liturgy in the Orthodox ceremony was performed by Rev. A. Hotovitsky in the public school. Services were held in this school regularly by Rev. Michael Fekula, their first rector, until it was no longer available.

The parishioners hired a hall in which to have services until a church was completed the following year.

In the month of March, 1912, Rev. M. Fekula was transferred to New York and his successor, Rev. John Kedrovsky, was received. A rectory was built in 1912.

In 1913, the construction of the new church was begun according to the plans of the architect John Bergazine. On Oct. 29, of the same year, Arch-Bishop Platon personally attended the laying of the corner-stone.

The cost of the building was well over \$45,000. This sum was collected among the parishioners at the request of Rev. Kedrovsky.

Hearing the Arch-Bishop Platon was about to sail for Russia, they asked him to serve in the new church, but because it was not quite completed, services were held in the old church. He blessed the new church, however, on May 11th, 1914.

In June, 1914, Rev. Kedrovsky was transferred and Rev. Jos. Fedoronko was appointed. The first ceremony in the new church was performed by Rev. Fedoronko.

In June 1917, Rev. Iona Milasevich succeeded Rev. J. Fedoronko. He took charge of decorating the interior of the church. When this was completed the church was blessed in full by Bishop Alexander on the first of September, 1918.

The old church is now used as the school. In 1928, Rev. Milasevich was transferred and Rev. Michael Fekula was appointed. On Dec. 28, 1932, Rev. Fekula was transferred and Arch-Bishop Stephen Kudrikoff was appointed.

There are five brotherhoods in the parish whose patron saints are: Arch-Angel Michael (Coaldale), Arch-Angel Michael (Hauto), Saint Dimitry, Bogdana Hmelnitskaho, and Birth of the Holy Virgin, and St. Barbara.

The parish has four Russian schools one each in Coaldale, Hauto, Lansford, and Nesquehoning. The parish is made up of over 200 families.

Saint John's Lithuanian

The first Lithuanian settlers of Coaldale attended St. Michael's Church in Lansford.

When St. Mary's Church was established in Coaldale, the Lithuanians joined; but, later decided to form a parish of their own.

The first church service was held in the East Ward school building on East Phillip St. Rev. Potenus of Mahanoy City, officiated. He came every Sunday to hold services in the schoolhouse. When Rev. Duritskas was assigned to the Coaldale Parish

in 1912, the services were held in a little school house adjoining the East Ward building.

After a few months in Coaldale, Rev. Duritskas was assigned a new parish. Rev. Guditis came to take his place. Under the pastorate of Rev. Guditis, the church at 227 West Phillip St., was built.

The contractor for the first church was Andrew Breslin, Summit Hill. The total cost amounted to \$47,000. The corner stone of the first Lithuanian Church was laid May 10, 1914. Easter Sunday, 1920, St. John's Church was destroyed by fire.

During the erection of a new church, the people of St. John's attended St. Mary's Church on Second St.

Alvin L. Graff of Tamaqua was given the contract for this church. In 1921, the second Lithuanian Church was completed at a cost of \$42,000.

The pastors of St. John's Church from 1914 to 1933: Rev. Guditis, Rev. Carolus, Rev. Tishkus, Rev. Klevence, Rev. Mockus.

St. Mary's Church

The Catholics of Coaldale attended St. Joseph's Church in Summit Hill until they decided to hold Church services in Coaldale. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was offered by the Rev. Francis Brady for the first time in Coaldale on Sunday, Aug. 14th, 1892, in the Phillip St. school building.

Toward the end of the pastorate of Father Garvey, it was suggested that a church be erected on Laurel Hill so that it might be reasonably near the people of Gearytown, who it was then believed, would become united with the proposed new parish.

Nothing more was heard of the plans. Meantime Father Flaherty, and occasionally Father Loughran,

offered mass every Sunday in the school house. But the congregation overtaxed the capacity of the commodious room.

At last a delegation of the parishioners from this end of St. Joseph's met with Father Loughran in conference in St. Joseph's rectory in the week of July 10, 1892, to bring the important matter to a head, with the result that there appeared in the "Tamaqua Courier" of July 16, the following note:

"Archbishop P. J. Ryan has given his sanction to the building of a church in Coaldale. The site of the building has not yet been selected, but it is believed that in the course of a couple of months a new church will grace our little town."

The delegation was informed by Father Loughran that His Grace would give Sacrament of Confirmation in St. Jerome's Church, Tamaqua, the Sunday following their conference. A census was completed within the week. The gentlemen who were selected thus to make the representations of the Catholics of Coaldale were: Messrs. James Cavanaugh, John R. Boyle, Edward McElroy, and Michael C. Ryan, M. D.; but at the last moment, the last named was summoned to the side of a sick woman, and was unable to be present. The census showed 900 souls in the hoped-for new parish.

On July 31, 1892 was the organization and the first meeting, at which a president was appointed in the person of J. R. Boyle, and a secretary, Wm. D. Boyle. Subsequently John J. Gildea was elected treasurer and placed under bond of \$2,000. The meetings were held in the room adjoining Mr. McElroy's store on Ridge St. D. J. Blaney was the builder of the altar used for the first mass and subsequent masses in the Phillip St. School.

Aug. 6, 1892, the Catholics of Coaldale were donated \$1,000 by St. Joseph's Parish to help build the new church. This sum was not a donation but was transferred in consideration of the part which the people of this end of the parish had taken in the effort that had been made by Father Garvey to gather sufficient funds to build a parish school.

Aug. 13, a meeting of all the Catholics of Coaldale was held to select a church site. Two sites were discussed, the present one and that on the corner of Ruddle and Third Sts. The Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co., which owned both of them, asked \$1,000 for the Ruddle St. site and \$500 for the present site. By Aug. 20, the new church was under way and E. P. Gallagher had been selected general architect to draft the plans. Oct. 1, Contractor Riebe broke ground for the new church.

The contract originally had been granted to J. F. Breslin, of Summit Hill, for the sum of \$8,350, and the work was to have been completed by Jan. 1, 1893; but Mr. Breslin's untimely death on Sept. 26 prevented this. Mr. Riebe's bid was \$8,600, but the parties "split the difference." The date of the breaking of ground was Monday, Sept. 28. The Committee had also undertaken very successfully the work of collecting the funds necessary and by Oct. 25 had paid out \$1322.84, and there remained on hand \$14.53.

The cornerstone of the new church was laid on May 21st, 1893. Rev. H. P. McPhilomy of the Church of Visitation, Phila., was the officiating minister, assisted by the pastor of the church, Rev. P. F. Loughran.

The first baptism record in the register was conferred by Father Murphy on Nov. 3, 1893, and the name of the infant was Jas. Hoben, son of Richard Hoben and Margaret Blaney.

The first couple who plighted their troth in the new church were Cornelius McHugh and Margaret Fisher who pronounced their vows before Father Murphy.

Times had not been prosperous for some months prior to Father Murphy's coming and the depression continued. The parish had no rectory of its own, the pastor's dwelling-place had been rented from John Brennan for \$7.00 a month. In 1896, the present rectory was begun.

St. Mary's Church is a neat structure in Gothic style and measures 120 feet long by 45 feet wide and has a seating capacity of between 600 and 700, exclusive of the gallery. In the front of the building is a tower 96 feet high, which is surmounted by a gilded cross six feet in height. The three altars were erected by Weaver & Alspach, of Tamaqua.

The windows are of stained glass, and were donated by the following: Building Committee, St. Joseph's T. A. B. Society, Slatepickers, Miners, Division No. 8, A. O. H., Lithuanians, Y. M. C. B. & L. Society, Ladies T. A. B. Society, Condry Malloy, Mrs. Anne Carr, Patrick McGeehan. The two side altars are surmounted, one by a statue of the Blessed Virgin with child, the other by one of St. Joseph. These are gifts of Mrs. Anne Carr. A beautiful sanctuary lamp hangs before the main altar, and was presented by Mrs. Bridget Gallagher. The two sacristies are richly carpeted.

The architect of the new church was E. P. Gallagher of Phila., who served his apprenticeship as slate-picker at Coaldale. Many who see the church say it is one of the finest outside of Philadelphia. Herman Riebe, of Lansford, was the contractor.

The term of incumbency of the first pastor, Father Murphy of St. Mary's came to an end, as noted, on July 4, 1896, when a tall, gaunt dark-

skinned and dark-haired young priest rapped at the door of the rectory and announced himself as the new appointee of His Grace to the pastorate of the Coaldale parish. The new priest was Rev. Lemuel B. Norton.

Dec. 17, 1908, the second pastor of St. Mary's was to make way for the third, Rev. Jos. V. Sweeney.

March 26, 1911, due to an attack of rheumatism, Father Sweeney had to retire from St. Mary's.

No new pastor came to St. Mary's for almost three months, then an administrator in the person of Rev. Thos. C. Brennan.

June 10, 1911, entered upon his duties as pastor of St. Mary's, Rev. Robert F. Hayes. The present pastor of St. Mary's is the Rev. Vodges.

Welsh Churches

Congregationalism became established in the Panther Creek Valley by immigrants from Wales who built a place of worship in Lansford. For years the Welsh people of Coaldale walked to Lansford to worship there in the Welsh Congregational Church.

A Sunday School was organized for the Coaldale Congregational children several years before a church was organized. Its first superintendent was Edw. D. Jones. It met in a company house on Ruddle St., Coaldale.

In 1870 the Welsh people met in the East Ward school building and organized the Moriah Welsh Congregational Church. They built their first edifice in 1874, the members of the church digging out the cellar for the foundation. They gathered and hauled enough stone from the south end of the town to erect the foundation. This building is located on the corner of Fourth and Ridge Sts.

The first minister was Rev. David Hughes; first chorister, J. O. Richards, and the first deacons, Edw. D. Jones, Louis Hughes, Thos. F. Jones, and John O. Richards.

The ministers from 1894-1920 were: Revs. R. N. Harris, Wm. Richards, C. H. Robinson, A. M. Wood, A. R. Hyatt, Wm. Boaz, Abraham Nightingale, W. C. B. Hickman.

Rev. F. H. Pascoe served the church from 1912 until 1920 when the two Congregational Churches in Coaldale were consolidated and he became the pastor of the consolidated church.

In 1893 a group of Congregationalists desiring to have services conducted in the English Language met in the East Ward school building to organize a church which became known as the Second Congregational Church of Coaldale.

They erected their new edifice in 1894. This building is the present English Congregational Church building which is located on Ruddle St. between Second and Third Sts.

At this time the Welsh Congregational Church changed its name from the Moriah Welsh Congregational Church to the First Congregational Church. The first minister of the Second Congregational Church was Rev. R. N. Harris. The first chorister of the Second Congregational Church was Edward Evans.

The first deacons of the Second Congregational Church were: George Yemm, Richard Edwards, and Daniel Davis.

The first Trustee Board of the Second Congregational Church was: Richard Edwards, Wesley Strohl, Daniel Davis, Jonathan Jones, and Thos. Griffiths.

In 1920 a committee was appointed in both the First and Second Congregational Churches to bring about their consolidation.

The members of the committee of the First Congregational Church were: Daniel Brimmer, Wm. Clements, Daniel Jones, and Rev. F. H. Pascoe.

The members of the committee of the Second Congregational Church were: Richard Edwards, Edw. Williams, Jonathan Jones, and Samuel Patterson.

Both churches voted to unite and call the consolidated church, The First Congregational Church of Coaldale on April 4th, 1920. The first service in the consolidated church was held on April 11th, 1920. The first parsonage of the First Congregational Church was erected in 1922.

The members of the committee for erection of the parsonage were: Daniel Jones (chairman), Wm. Clements (Treas.), Daniel Brimmer, Thos. Evans, and Thos. West.

New windows were put in and the Sunday School Rooms extended and renovated to the amount of \$4,000. A new roof was put on the church, new panel work installed, painting of the interior accomplished and new furniture installed during the month of May 1932.

Rev. F. H. Pascoe, the present pastor, has served the church for 22 years beginning as a local preacher January, 1912. In April 1913, he became the regular pastor. He was ordained in the church by a council appointed by the Wyoming Association of the Congregational Churches, May 19, 1915.

The committee on arranging the program for ordination was as follows: Wm. Clements, David J. Jones, Sr., and Wm. Evans, Sr.

Deacons serving 1933 were as follows: Daniel Brimmer, Daniel Jones, Wm. Parfitt, Samuel Hoffman. The Deaconesses were: Mrs. F. H. Pascoe, and Mrs. Anna Simpson.

The first Trustee Board: Wm. Hughes, Thos. F. Jones, Edw. D. Jones, John Morgans, Louis Hughes, Daniel Griffiths, John Williams, and Gwilym Williams.

First Staff of Teachers In Coaldale



Reading from left to right, Front Row, Miss Margaret A. Bonner, Miss Mary Woods, Miss Candace Avise, Ethophian Williams, Miss Alice Boyd, Miss Madge O'Donnell and Miss Anna Herron.

Left to Right, Back Row, Joseph Scott, Miss Sadie Foley (deceased), Miss Sadie Mundy, John Mundy, Miss Anna Stewart, Dr. M. C. Ryan (deceased), Miss Kate O'Donnell, John R. Boyle.

All the ministers who served the Welsh Congregational Church up to 1912 were: Rev. David Hughes, Rev. Richard Powell, D. D., Rev. Thos. J. Davies, Rev. David Jones, Rev. Joshua C. Luke, Rev. O. M. Lewis, Rev. Byron, Rev. Calvin Williams, Rev. Wm. Rippon.

Officers and Members of the Trustee Board 1933: Rev. F. H. Pascoe, Pres.; Miss Helen Murphy, Church Clerk; Mrs. Wm. Parfitt, Financial Secy.; Mrs. Chas. Weiss, Treas.; Mrs. O'Dillon Foulke, Mrs. Wm. Flecknoe, Daniel Jones, Wm. Clements, Samuel Hoffman, Daniel Brimmer, Thos. J. Evans, Franklin Maury.

Present membership of the church is 260 and there are 120 families.

EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS

Committee: Boris Kudrikoff,
John Bench.

Before there were any schools in Rahn Township, the children received only what little education they could get from their parents. But because many of the parents had no schooling, many children received no education at all.

For many years the people felt the need of a school but, because money was lacking, they were unable to build one. In 1849, however, the people contributed material and labor with the result that a small school was built on Jackson St., (now First). Although it was a small one-room building, it served its purpose well.

Some time was spent in finding a teacher and finally Graham Kennedy, of Summit Hill, was appointed its first school master. He was paid a salary of \$20 a month for a term of six months a year. The money with which his salary was paid was raised by taxation.

The opening of the school found about forty scholars, all anxious to learn. Three days a week they gathered around the large stove to learn the subjects which they considered important:—reading, writing, and arithmetic. This building served as a school for many years. Recently it was razed and converted into a dwelling place.

In 1858 another school was built. It was located in Centerville. This school provided for the education of the children of Springdale, Centerville and North Jackson St.

This was also a one-room building. In the center of the room was a large stove which supplied the heat during the cold weather. The first teacher of this school was William McLaughlin, who received a salary of \$25.00 a month. After teaching a few years, he retired and lived in Summit Hill until his death about three years ago. He was succeeded by Mrs. Hannah Davis Jones, who is now a resident of Philadelphia. Her successor was Leticia Early.

The three "R's" were the only subjects taught in this school until about 1885. At this time spelling and a little geography were added. There were no regular hours—school was dismissed when the stage-coach came.

In 1903 this school was used as a pest house during the small pox epidemic. In 1904, it was destroyed by fire.

About 1860 the "red school house" on Phillips St. was completed. It was also a one-room building but in 1875 it was razed and made into two rooms. About this time it was called East Ward School. David Mathers was its first teacher. His salary was \$25 a month. This was later raised to \$30. This school was torn down a few years ago.

In 1870, Seek boasted of a school of its own. Unlike the preceding schools, it was a two-room building. A few years later it was razed and made into four rooms. Samuel Motzer was appointed its first teacher. His salary was \$30 a month.

Among the earliest teachers of this school were Edw. McElroy and Dr. M. C. Ryan.

A few years after the completion of the school at Seek, a four-room structure was built on Fifth and High Sts. Only two rooms were used as a school while the other two served as a home for Jeremiah Foley, its first teacher. A few years later the four rooms were used as a school. Among its earliest teachers were Mrs. Annie Stuart and Miss Margaret A. Bonner. Miss Bonner is the oldest teacher in Coaldale. This school was recently converted into a two-family house.

There were no janitors in any of these schools but the teacher took the place of them. It was their duty to clean the room, make the fire and do other things as well as teach. The boys usually brought in the coal and wood.

When a child first entered school he began to learn the alphabet until he mastered it. After this he was given a primer. This was a book containing pictures of common objects with the name above it. The child had to spell the name over and over until he knew it perfectly. This system was discarded soon after 1885 and the phonogram (word system) was used instead.

The year 1889 marked the construction of the first large school in Rahn Township. It was the present East Ward building on Phillips St. There were eight rooms with as many teachers.

The School Board at this time was composed of: Bernard Boyle, Pres.;

James A. Mundy, Secy.; John McLean, Samuel Boyle, Wm. Mitchell, Jno. Elliott. Samuel Boyle is the only one of these still living.

In 1906, Coaldale became a borough. At this time the school directors were: Neil J. Boyle, Pres.; Dennis J. Boyle, Secy.; Paul Cavanaugh, Treas.; Edward Cavanaugh, and John Boyle.

The Middle Ward school on Ruddle and High Sts., was completed in 1908. There were eight teachers when it was opened. Later another teacher was appointed.

In 1915, a two-room school was completed in Seek. There were two teachers in this building until 1933. In that year, the old four-room structure was razed because it was condemned by the authorities and considered unsafe for school purposes. Because of the crowded conditions in these two rooms it became necessary to appoint four teachers.

The High School

A high school course was first given in the East Ward building in 1900. It was a two-year course. The first graduating class was in 1902. The graduates were Dora Davis (now Mrs. Paul Kirchner), Samuel Boyle, Jr., (cashier of the Lansford Dime Bank), and Frank Jones, (drug salesman).

In 1908, when the Middle Ward School was completed, two rooms were used as the high school. In 1909, however, the high school was again in the East Ward Building. Nine persons graduated from the high school in the Middle Ward.

Another teacher was added to the high school's faculty in 1909. This made a total of three teachers.

The last year that a high school course was given in the East Ward Building, 1922, there were 25 graduates.

The number of high school students kept increasing and a new high school was needed for them. The matter was voted upon.

The vote showed the majority was in favor of a school. The School Board made a loan and issued bonds. The building of the school was soon under way.

John T. Simpson was the architect and engineer. His assistant was Brown Ralston. The School Board at that time was made up of Chas. Watkins, Pres.; Wm. J. Clements, V. Pres.; Thos. J. Evans, Treas.; Burk Harvey, Secy.; Jacob Berger, Thos. J. West, and David Yemm. Bernard Duffy was the solicitor. John E. Gildea was the supervising principal. The cost of the building, with equipment, was \$225,000. The building was completed in 1923.

The last graduating class in the East Ward building was in 1922. They completed their three year course. The next year they came back to the new high school building and were the first to complete a four year course in Coaldale. There were 25 in this class.

Ten teachers were appointed in 1923 to teach in the new building. Now there are 20. The first principal of the high school building was R. B. Morgan. He was succeeded by Samuel W. Miller. A. C. Moser succeeded Miller in 1929. John E. Gildea is the supervising principal.

In the senior high school, in 1923, there were 123 pupils. In the 7th and 8th grades there were 151. A total of 276 pupils came to the new school. In 1933, the enrollment was 567.

At present there are four school buildings in Coaldale. There are 50 teachers, 30 in the grades and 20 in the high school.

This term (1933-34) 1,454 students are enrolled in public schools first opened in Rahn Township.

In 1932, the total amount budgeted \$181,964.91. The total expended was \$160,286.47. The cost of keeping each pupil in school was \$96.40.

Vocal music was introduced into the Coaldale High School in December, 1916. The first music teacher was Miss Burke. She received a salary of \$40 a month, teaching three days a week. She was succeeded by Miss Mame Richards. Miss Griffiths was the next music teacher. Miss Ada Meredith succeeded her. In 1932 Miss McLean, the present music supervisor, was appointed. In 1928, Oscar S. Keebler organized an orchestra in the high school. The orchestra had 22 members.

Although the high school had an orchestra it was not until 1930 that instrumental music was introduced into the high school curriculum. A. C. Moser was responsible for it being added.

John J. Horn was appointed instructor of instrumental music. Coaldale is known for its band which Mr. Horn has organized.

The first year, 1930, the band had 145 members. Now there is a junior band, with 133 members, and senior band with 102 members. The present orchestra has 31 members.

Physical Education

In 1929, Physical Education was added to the High School curriculum. A. C. Kalen was appointed to be Physical Director.

Health Education was introduced in 1930. T. P. Raymer was appointed Health Director.

The library was first started in Coaldale High School during the scholastic year 1918. The books were purchased from the Davis Pharmacy. Half the funds were donated by the School Board, the other half raised by the Student Body. At its beginning it had approximately 100 books and from that time until the present

the number has increased to 1800 books.

Athletics

Basketball was organized in the Coaldale High School in 1921, under Coach Chas. Sharpe. All the games were played in the Burns's Hall which is at present a recreation parlor on First St. Each member of the basketball team bought his own equipment and each night of practice or a game each member of the team paid a fee of ten cents for the rental of the hall. The following year this same group of boys organized another basketball team and became a chartered member of the Carbon-Schuylkill League with Summit Hill, Shenandoah, Inter-Chunk, Nesquehoning, Schuylkill Haven, Pottsville and Lehigh. The Coaldale team was composed of the following members: Andrew Kalen, Nelson Jones, Marvin Evans, Harold Yemm, Richard Evans, Anthony Oswald, and William Skin-kis.

They were a group of boys who loved basketball and as a result won the first championship in the Carbon-Schuylkill League. Each year the Coaldale High School basketball team has given other members of the Carbon-Schuylkill League a hard battle for championship honors. In the year 1929 they again won the championship of the Carbon-Schuylkill League.

Football

In the year 1921 the first football team was organized under Coach Irvin Murphy. Through the cooperation of the school board and citizens of Coaldale these boys managed to buy the necessary equipment to play their first game of football in Coal-dale against Hazle Township High School. High School football had to be good to interest the spectators of Coaldale during this year because they were used to seeing the best

brand of football with the Coaldale Big Green. The following schedule was played in 1921:

Hazle Township	12- 0
Lansford	18- 6
Summit Hill	18- 0
Porter Township	78- 0
Tamaqua	6- 7
Mahanoy City	6-19
Mahanoy City	14- 0
Minersville	0-35
Porter Township	24- 0
Totals	176-67

And in 1922 this team completed the following schednle undefeated:

Pottsville	6- 2
Minersville	54- 0
Tamaqua	39- 0
Ashland	20- 0
Lansford	12- 0
Pottstown	13- 6
Summit Hill	40- 0
Freeland	78- 0
Hazle Township	79- 0
Shenandoah	7- 6
Totals	384-14

Coaldale High School football teams have always played the best high school football teams in this region and the results stand as follows to date:

Year	Won	Lost	Points	
			CHS	Vis.
1921	6	3	176	67
1922	10	0	384	14
1923	4	3	80	84
1924	7	1	159	24
1925	7	1	236	3
1926	5	3	133	66
1927	5	2	79	19
1928	7	0	219	13
1929	6	3	171	44
1930	10	0	175	13
1931	6	2	208	26
1932	5	2	74	19
1933	7	2	231	44

First Baseball Team Organized in 1875



Coaldale boasted of a popular baseball team in the early days preceding the advent of football in that town.

In the back row, standing, from left to right are Tom Barrett, Joe McHugh, Wm. McElroy and Thos. Mitchell.

In the front row, seated, from left to right are Rube Shellhammer, J. O'Donnell, John McLane, John Holmes and Geo. Aiken.

Track

The first Coaldale High School track team was organized in 1919 by A. C. Moser. They participated in the Penn Relays and a few local track meets. Track teams continued on a small scale until 1923-24, when the first annual Coaldale High School Track Meet was held on the Coaldale High School Athletic Field. Since this time Coaldale has developed some very fine track teams, that participated in the most prominent track meets in the East.

FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Committee: Franklyn Gewehr,
Mike Shatowsky, John Slaby,
Mike Kashubiac, Daniel Pisanic,
Mike Pavlovich.

A movement was started in the latter part of the year 1909 towards the organization of a bank. A meeting was held at the home of Harry F. Blaney on Dec. 22, 1909, attended by the following persons: Judge W. G. Thomas, John V. Brennan, Evan G. Evans, B. J. Duffy, W. H. Kohler, Edw. McElroy, Michael Domin, John R. Boyle and H. F. Blaney. A temporary organization was appointed with John R. Boyle as Chairman and H. F. Blaney, Secretary. Plans for the forming of a permanent organization were laid and on Jan. 12, 1910, Articles of Association were adopted.

On Jan. 19, 1910 a permanent organization was effected and the following were elected to serve as the first directors: John R. Boyle, Evan G. Evans, W. H. Kohler, H. F. Blaney, Edward McElroy, Michael Domin, John V. Brennan, B. J. Duffy, W. G. Thomas, Michael Pavlik, Dr. J. E. Beale, D. C. Gildea, C. F. Bonner, John McTague, and Edward Cavanaugh. The following officers were elected: John R. Boyle, President; Evan G. Evans and W. H. Kohler,

Vice Presidents; D. C. Gildea, Secretary and H. F. Blaney, Cashier.

A building was erected at the corner of Third and East Ruddle Sts., and on Sept. 26, 1910 the bank was opened to the public. At the close of the first day's operation, the deposits amounted to \$5,760, with total assets of \$36,068. At the end of the first year, the deposits had increased to \$31,119 and assets to \$131,623.

Since then the bank has steadily grown and deposits have reached the amount of \$896,842 with assets of \$1,011,233.

On Jan. 20, 1932 the First National Bank consolidated with the State Bank which was organized in 1923, and had its first quarters situated at 109 Phillips St.

The First National Bank is now located in a beautiful, modern, fire-proof building on the corner of Third and Phillip Streets.

The present directors of the bank are: Evan Evans, Chas. P. Melley, C. F. Bonner, D. J. Boyle, Frank J. Boyle, Edward Cavanaugh, John F. Coll, and Burke Harvey. The officers are: Evan Evans, President; Chas. P. Melley, Vice Pres.; Thos. C. Leddy, Cashier; and Walter Evans, Assistant Cashier.

Building and Loan Ass'n

Seeing the need of a Building and Loan Association in Coaldale, a number of prominent men held a meeting at the home of E. G. Evans. The following attended: E. G. Evans, A. D. Boyle, John R. Boyle, David E. Jones, Edw. McElroy, Jas. Owen, Albert Jones, E. McFadden, P. C. McGeehan, Richard J. West, Jas. McDyer.

They organized June 20, 1897. The first officers were: E. G. Evans, Pres.; A. D. Boyle, Vice Pres.; John R. Boyle, Secy.; David E. Jones, Treas.

At the end of the year the assets were \$17,600. The assets today are \$725,000.

The first Building and Loan Association conducted its business at 116 Ridge St.

The office was in this building for a great number of years until 1924 when it was decided that a larger office was needed to handle its business. It was decided that this building would be built on Second St. At present, this building is located at 167 Second St.

The present officers and directors are: Thos. J. Evans, Pres.; Thos. J. West, Vice Pres.; Frank J. Boyle, Solicitor; Thos. J. Evans, Thos. J. West, Daniel Barron, Frank J. Boyle, Edw. Cavanaugh, Bert Harvey, Jas. J. Melley, John Gildea, Wm. J. Clements, and Hayden Evans, Directors.

Peoples Building & Loan

The Peoples Building & Loan Association of Coaldale was granted a charter on Dec. 1, 1923, and opened for business on Feb. 4, 1924. It is capitalized at \$5,000,000 and its charter is perpetual. The officers at that time were: Evan G. Evans, President; Thos. J. Evans, Vice Pres.; Frank J. Boyle, Secy.; John E. Gildea, Treas.; Freyman, Thomas and Branch, Solicitors.

The Board of Directors were as follows: Frank J. Boyle, John R. Boyle, Edward Cavanaugh, Philip J. Domin, Wm. J. Clements, Frank J. Duffy, Evan G. Evans, Jas. H. Furey, Thos. J. Evans, John E. Gildea, Burke Harvey, Lewis Hughes, Jas. F. Melley, Thomas J. West.

The first annual report of this building and loan association for year ending January 20, 1925, was: Receipts, \$129,511.46; Disbursements, \$129,511.46; Assets, \$116,708.68; Liabilities, \$116,708.68.

The report of the Peoples Building & Loan Association for the year end-

ing Jan. 20, 1933, is as follows: Receipts, \$227,383.44; Disbursements, \$227,383.44; Assets, \$476,624.11; Liabilities, \$476,624.11.

The present officers are: Thos. J. Evans, Pres.; Thos. J. West, Vice Pres.; Frank J. Boyle, Secy.; Mary M. Boyle, Assistant Secy.; Jas. F. Melley, Treas.; Ben Franeh, Esq., Solicitor for Carbon County; Daniel J. Boyle, Solicitor for Schuylkill Co.

The board of directors are as follows: Daniel Barron, Frank J. Boyle, Edw. Cavanaugh, Wm. J. Clements, Hayden Evans, Thos. J. Evans, Jas. H. Furey, John E. Gildea, Burke Harvey, Jas. F. Melley, Thos. J. West.

The office is located at 167 Second St.

The Home Building & Loan

The Home Building and Loan Association was granted a charter on Sept. 11, 1907. It opened for business on Oct. 23, 1907. The directors at that time were: W. F. Ely, Lansford; Jos. Daley, Coaldale; M. J. Fisher, Coaldale; Samuel Boyle, Jr., Coaldale; D. C. Gildea, H. F. Blaney, Andrew Weaver, Patrick Deveney, all of Coaldale; Andrew Dugan, Lansford; John Furey and Jas. McDyer, Coaldale.

At that time, the business office was at the home of Michael J. Fisher, 28 E. High St., Coaldale.

At the present time, the capital of the Building & Loan Association is \$800,000 and the assets total \$230,619.02. There are 103 stockholders.

The present officers are: Jas. Bynon, Pres.; George K. Foster, Vice Pres.; Palmer Evans, Secy.; Norman Richards, Treas.

The present directors are: Evan Evans, Kermit Hoffman, Steve Radocha, Martin Kanich, Thos. Price, Norman Richards, Palmer Evans, B. J. O'Donnell, John Puschak, Anthony Miller, John Duffy, and Geo. K. Foster.

COALDALE STATE HOSPITAL

Committee: Anna Polonsky, Justina Sedlock, Mary Rayder, Jos. Ambrose, John Yancovich, Clement Yesulaitis, Francis Bugeravage.

The Coaldale Hospital arose from the needs of the miners in the valley for hospital accommodations. The Valley was too far from Pottsville and Mauch Chunk to allow the care of injured men to be as beneficial as could be desired in cases of emergencies.

Consequently in 1909, the miners of the Valley volunteered to tender a day's pay for the construction of an institution while the Lehigh Navigation and Coal Company through the efforts of Superintendent Ludlow tendered a site for the building, and also informed the men that the money raised by them would be augmented by the company's paying a similar sum.

Plans for the Institution, which is located just east of the village of Seek and overlooking the entire valley, were drawn up by Heyett, Stevens, and Paiste, of Phila. Work on the building was finally completed on July 11, 1910. The total amount of money contributed was close to \$50,000. The structure is a three-story brick, and was originally built to accommodate 30 patients. The normal run of patients in 1917 was 68. The hospital has three wards, two for men and one for women. The present congestion calls for the use of every available room, the situation being relieved slightly by the enclosure of two porches on the south which gives the hospital eight additional beds. Superintendent Edgar E. Shifferstine speaking of the necessity for more room, stated that the hospital could easily use twenty-five or thirty private rooms.

The interior of the building was destroyed by fire, in 1911. The work of the hospital had to be done in nearby houses, which were fortunately vacant at the time. The institution was reopened two months later, and has been in continuous operation ever since.

An inspection of the building on Nov. 6, 1933 with the Superintendent as a guide disclosed the fact that the hospital is admirably fitted out though insufficient to the needs of the present.

One of the two men's wards is located on the extreme eastern portion of the building on the first floor. It is fitted in white enamel cots. Twenty-four patients are being accommodated in the room, which originally had but ten beds.

The second floor contains another ward similarly fitted out, also containing 24 patients.

The majority of the patients are miners of the valley, and the surgical cases presented are far in excess of the medical cases. Owing to the lack of space, the wards are obliged to accommodate a general mixture of patients.

One of the interesting sights of the men's ward was the large number of broken limbs, nine of which could be seen suspended from slings swing from overhead. Dr. Shifferstine remarked that this was a small number of these cases. There were also a large number of burned patients. One of them was a survivor of the Foster tunnel entombment of several years ago. He is now in the hospital suffering from burns sustained in an explosion.

The women's and children's ward, which is located at the eastern end of the second floor, contained 18 patients, most of which were surgical, although the usual number is twelve to fourteen.

The laundry, laboratory and dispensary are located in the basement. The laboratory is built to the south of the building and is well equipped, while the laundry is up to date in every respect.

The dispensary, which is a small room, is too small for the work being done. The records of the building show 80 per day.

An X-ray machine of the most modern type and classed as one of the best is now being installed. It will cost \$4,500 when completed. The drug room, which is used only for hospital work, not being used for dispensary purposes, is also well equipped, despite the fact that the drugs are hard to get, especially the ones used for the class of cases that emanate from the mines.

A complete refrigerating plant is also located in the basement. This is augmented by the construction of an under ground cellar, which was built last summer.

The kitchen is also of the latest type and well equipped. Fans for the ventilation of the room and the carrying of all odors from the building have been installed recently. The operating room, which is located at the southeastern end of the building, is well lighted and ventilated and fully equipped, for the work done.

The report of the hospital to the state board of charities for the years 1917-1918 and 1918-1919 presents the needs of the building as outlined by the officials, as follows:

"The total appropriation asked for the next biennial period for the Coal-dale State Hospital is \$205,244.55. and in compliance with the request of the Board of Public Charities, we submit herewith a brief statement giving our reasons for the necessities of the different items, as follows: Maintenance, 1917-18, \$27,697.90; Maintenance,

1918-19, \$27,697.90; Total Maintenance, \$55,395.80.

"This item is based on the per capita costs for the year ending May 31, 1916. Replies to requests for bids on supplies for the next calendar year show an average increase in costs of 25 per cent. over that of last year, and, in some instances more than 100 per cent. increase. In view of this advance, it would be in order to increase the total estimate cost of maintenance for the two years 25 per cent. or \$13,848.75. This does not include the cost of maintaining the laboratories as required by the Board of Medical Education and Licensure, to meet whose instructions \$3500 additional must be provided.

"New wards for burned men, women, children, and isolation and corridors—\$75,000. Additional wards would permit the separation and classification of the different cases, relieve the present over-crowded condition of the wards. The original capacity of the hospital was 30 beds; 10 more beds and six cots have been crowded in, allowing scarcely enough room between each for a nurse to attend to patients. Where possible the overflow is taken care of by placing two patients in one bed; the others are asked to sleep on blankets on the floor.

"On account of this limited capacity, the Board of Trustees a few years ago limited the class of patients admitted. This raised such a storm of objection among the people in the community, who were compelled to send the sick to the hospitals 25 to 30 miles distant, where poor people were unable to visit their sick on account of the distance and expense of traveling, that the board had to recall the order.

"Isolation—There is no room or rooms in which to isolate communicable diseases. At present, they

must be treated in the general wards and attempt made to isolate them by means of screens.

"Kitchen, dormitories and furnishings, servants and storage and dining room \$25,000. The kitchen is too small for even the present work. In addition to cooking use, orderlies, etc., must use it as a dining room. It is located in the cellar, so that the upper floor may be used as dormitories for the servants. Two and three people are compelled to room together in a space scarcely large enough for one. We are also compelled to rent rooms on the outside to take care of several of the servants.

"Superintendent and Nurses Home and furnishings \$20,000. The nurses occupy rooms similar to those of the domestics and are equally crowded. The affect of housing nurses and servants on the same floor in this way is detrimental to the efficiency and discipline of the institution. The night nurses are compelled to sleep in rented quarters in neighboring houses.

"The Superintendent and family occupy rooms which are located between the wards. These rooms could be used to great advantage for hospital purposes. In other words, from 80 to 90 people are crowded into a building which normally should not care for more than 50.

"The boiler house and boilers \$7500. The boilers are at present located in the cellar underneath the women and children's wards. They should on account of the danger from gases, explosions and fires, by all means be moved to a separate building. Improvements to the present building including repairs and repainting and replacing old furniture —\$5,000.

The building badly needs repairs inside and outside. On account of

the over-crowding it had, of course, had hard usage. The floors must be recovered, the walls repainted, and the plumbing pretty generally replaced. Maintenance, 1917-18, \$27,697.90; Maintenance, 1918-19, \$27,697.90. Total Maintenance, \$55,395.80.

Estimated 35% increase, \$13,848.80. Maintaining laboratories as per instructions of Board of Medical Education, \$3,500; Improvements to buildings, including repairing and replacing old furniture, \$5,000.

New wards: Burned men, women, children and isolation and corridors, \$75,000. Buildings: Kitchen, dormitories and furnishings, servants dining room and storage, \$25,000.

Superintendent's and Nurses' home and furnishings, \$20,000; Boiler house and boilers, \$7,500. Total amount applied for, \$205,244.55.

"The amount asked for the different items exceeds the request of two years ago, due to the great increase in costs of materials and labor, which has been estimated by reliable contractors to be from 25 to 50 percent.

"Private rooms—There are none. If such were available they would be a source of considerable income. Rooms now occupied by the Superintendent's family would be utilized if a house were provided.

"There is no morgue in which to keep the dead. At present we are obliged to use the drug room until such a time as friends are able to remove the body. The new kitchen would allow space in the basement for this purpose.

"Proper rooms should be provided in which to place our X-Ray laboratory equipment and install such other departments as are required by the Board of Education and License. This could be provided

by moving the boilers to a separate building."

Officers of the Hospital

The first Board of Trustees of the Coaldale Hospital consisted of Baird Snyder, Jr., Pottsville; H. I. Silliman, Pottsville; Edward Evans, Summit Hill; J. F. McGinty and C. C. Bonner, Tamaqua; John R. Boyle, Coaldale; I. M. Davies, Lansford; S. G. Seligman, W. J. Butler, Tamaqua; Jas. McCready, Summit Hill; Alonzo P. Blakslee, Mauch Chunk, and Albert J. Thomas, Lansford.

Application to make the hospital a state institution was filed with the state department by the committee consisting of Baird Snyder, Andrew Breslin, John A. Quinn, Jas. Tinley, and John R. Boyle when appointed to examine the structure, accounts and equipment. It was finally accepted as a state hospital, and Messrs. Snyder, Breslin, Quinn, Tinley, Boyle, Edwin Ludlow and Vincent De Paul Quinn were appointed as a Board of Trustees. The board consisted of Mr. Silliman, Isaac M. Davies, and Paul W. Houck.

Dr. Edgar E. Shifferstine of Tamaqua, who graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, later spent five years under Dr. Biddle at Fountain Springs, and then took a year's study abroad, is the resident physician. He has been in charge of the hospital since its erection. Dr. Shifferstine is a son of H. D. and Mary Shifferstine of Tamaqua, and is classed as one of the leading surgeons of the country.

Dr. R. M. Markle was his assistant previous to the coming of Dr. A. Weaver, who is a native of Williamsport, and a graduate of the Jefferson Medical College.

Miss Eunice M. O'Donnell was the head nurse for several years, leaving the hospital last year to become the wife of John F. Dence of Ashland. She was a Summit Hill girl.

Miss Ethel E. Holmes, the present head nurse is a native of England. She is extremely capable in her work and is a valuable asset to the efficient corps.

In addition to the above medical staff, the consultants consist of four physicians, Dr's. C. B. Dreher, E. H. Kistler, B. F. Erwin, and J. G. Zeru.

Some interesting facts connected with the hospital are as follows:

The first nurses in the hospital were: Miss V. Kazakewicz and Miss Nellie Close.

The first Training School was opened in 1912.

The first head nurse was Miss Anna Kutzer; first Coaldale Dr. Interne was Marvin R. Evans and the first licensed doctor to serve on the staff was Ralph Markle, M. D.

First Board of Trustees consisted of Baird Snyder, Jr., Alex McLain, H. I. Silliman, Wm. J. Bubber, C. C. Bonner, John McElhenney, Rev. L. B. Norton, Thomas Richards, Jas. McCready, Dr. W. Ely, Morgan Morgans, Edward Evans, John R. Boyle, Robert Yorke, Dr. B. S. Ervin, Dr. J. F. Waser, T. M. Whildin, Wm. Schneider, Rev. J. C. McConnon, Rev. T. B. Larkin, Michael Koomer, Martin Fley-sic.

The first patient admitted to the hospital was Stephen Snikschak, Lansford, who was admitted July 14, 1910.

Dates of new building—the original building was built in 1909; the new annex, in Sept. 1927, and the nurses' home in 1933.

The employes originally numbered 15, and now number 59.

The bed capacity was originally 30, and now is 92.

John Prostovich, of Poland, was the first man to die in the hospital.

The opening of the new maternity department was in January 1932 and Daniel Conahan, of Seek, was the first child born; the birth being on Jan. 1, 1932.

The Nurses Home

Ground was broken in 1927 to construct a home for nurses. For some reason, work on the building ceased in 1929 when it was almost completed. This building stood vacant until 1933. Finally, the Board of Directors managed to cut all the necessary red tape with the State Department for another appropriation and on this date preparations are being made for its occupancy.

It is a Colonial type building constructed with red brick and is four stories high. It includes a reception hall, a large recreation or living room which includes a beautiful fire place. On the first floor there are 14 rooms for nurses, all these rooms are furnished with beautiful mahogany furniture of the Colonial type. There are two bath rooms on this floor which are completely finished in tile. On the second floor there are 16 rooms for nurses, a room with private baths for the supervisor of nurses and a similar room for the head housekeeper, also two bathrooms. All of these rooms are equipped and furnished similar to the ones on the first floor. The third floor contains six rooms and one bath, a large storage room lined with red cedar.

The basement includes a large storage room, a sewing room equipped with electric Singer sewing machines, a laundry room, a linen room, a large class room, and a well equipped study hall.

There is an underground passage from the nurses' home to all the other buildings of the hospital.

CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

Committee: Helen Pisklak,
Helen Slaby, Joseph Korsak,
Irene Demyanovich, Jane Harris,
Zelda McLean.

The American Legion was born on the Battle Front. Coaldale Boys

were among the first to secure a charter for a Post and named it for Walter E. Geweher and John Shubeck, two of their Comrades who gave their lives in the World War service.

The boys of Schuylkill County were returning home. The War Chest Committee here in Coaldale united with all other civic and fraternal organizations in giving the boys a rousing welcome home, and born of the meetings held in connection with the celebration was the desire for a duly organized Legion Post.

Meetings were called and in due time the Legion here became an established institution.

In 1932 the American Legion erected a tablet at the town hall and dedicated it May 11, 1932 in memory of the Coaldale boys who served their Country.

The following names appear on the tablet:

Civil War Veterans: James Andrews, John Billingby, James Boyd, Edward Boyle, James Burns, Steve Condon, Robert Craig, James Cunningham, John Delay, Peter Dorang, James Early, Owen Fisher, Sam Fleming, Jeremiah Foley, Mark Foster, David Gaston, Ben Hoffa, Silias Hoffman, Lewis Howard, Conrad Keilman, Bernard Keely, John Koeh, John J. Lewis, Wm. Logan, James McDermott, James McHugh, Dan McHugh, Dan McLean, Con McNelis, Haron Moser, Dan Moser, Gideon Moser, Edward Mundy, James O'Neil, Alfred Poe, John Patterson, Thompson Ponting, Eli Sassaman, Alex Sneddon, Thomas Thomas, Pheon Whitstone, John T. Williams, Capt. Winloek, Joe Sassaman, David Moser.

Spanish American War Veterans: Dan Brimmer, Cr. W. H. Clewell,

George Davis, Charles Gallagher, Gideon Hoffman, Silius Hoffman.

World War Veterans: Samuel Adamitis, Chas. Aransky, Geo. Aransky, John Ardos, Martin Balzovich, Victor Bannes, Dennis Barry, Jas. Barry, Angelo Basso, Augustine Bechtel, Alex Benlus, Andrew Benyo, Steve Bisko, John Blahak, Harry Blaney, Vincent Blaney, Alfred Bolinsky, Raymond Bolinsky, Fred Bonner, Jas. Bonner, Raymond Bonner, Daniel F. Boyle, Daniel J. Boyle, Edward Boyle, Eugene Boyle, Frank Boyle.

John Boyle, Patrick Boyle, Thos. Boyle, Andrew Firkal, Geo. Firkal, Jas. Fisher, Thos. B. Boyle, James Bradley, Chas. Brennan, George Breslin, John A. Breslin, Oversea-Army; Dr. Jos. V. Burns, Bant Cavanaugh, Chas. Clements, Jos. Coll, Milton E. Craig, Philip Domin, Jas. Donahue, Edw. Duffy, Frank Edwards, Evan Evans, Jr., Walter Evans, Alex Firkal, Mike Gerber, Overseas-Army; Vincent Gildea, Jacob Harvey.

Jerome Hoffman, Edw. Hoffman, John Hoffman, John Pantella, Tony Paraschak, Wm. Parfitt, Frank Pakgan, John Pavlick, Michael Pavlick, August Pavlovich, John Phillips, Edw. Pinkey, Lenord Pinkey, Wm. Pinkey, Joseph Polkulinski, Stephen Polansky, John Parvolkis, Reese Price, William Price, Peter Pipchack, Daniel Kabaca, Wash Kabaca.

Andrew Rudner, Michael Rusiavez, Cletus Schilling, Wash Sekella, Chas. Sharpe, Jas. Sharpe, Chas. Shellhammer, Jos. Shigo, Felix Shinko, John Shukich, Wm. Shugg, Geo. Shull, Iran Simack, Tony Soracco, Andrew Skirkanich, Casper Slaby, Wallace Sneddon, Harry Rachman, Wm. Rat-chus, Franklin Reis, Michael Revytak, Nathan E. Mantz, oversea.

Armistice Day Celebration

Probably nowhere in the state was the twelfth anniversary of the sign-

ing of the World War observed with more elaboration than in Coaldale, where fully half a dozen separate events were put into one big celebration that served as Schuylkill County's commemoration of the day.

From far and near American Legion posts, schools, patriotic and fraternal organizations gathered in Coaldale. A parade was held in the morning as a tribute to the public schools of the county and preceded a program at the new Coaldale High School in dedication of the institution of learning and in dedication of the new high school athletic field.

At 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon, the principal parade of the day took place in tribute to the service men of the World War, who gave their lives for the country and also served to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the incorporation of Coaldale as a borough and to dedicate \$100,000 worth of concrete streets constructed in the borough during the previous summer.

The evening parade was sponsored by the Geweher-Shubick Post, No. 170, American Legion and was in the form of a mardi gras in which several thousand masqueraders marched. It was followed by fire works and an anniversary ball.

Ladies Auxiliary

The American Legion Auxiliary began several years ago, being organized by Jas. M. Donahue, of the American Legion. The meeting was presided over by Chas. Gebert of Tamaqua, who was then the District Commander of the Legion. He called for an election of officers, with the following result:

President, Miss Frances Hoben, Vice Pres., Mrs. James E. Gallagher, Secy., Miss Evelyn O'Donnell, Treas., Miss Veronica Bonner.

The new officers were installed by Mrs. Anna H. Slattery, District

President of St. Clair. The society meets twice a month, having one business meeting and a social meeting.

They conduct card parties and out of their treasury have made many donations to the poor at Christmas and at different periods of the year.

Coaldale Volunteer Fire Co. No. 1

The Coaldale Fire Co. was organized April 26, 1906. The meeting was held in the East Ward School Building and the seventy-five members elected the following officers: President, Alexander Murphy; Vice Pres., Wm. Evans; Recording Secy., H. F. Blaney; Financial Secy., Charles A. Melley; Treasurer and Trustee, N. J. Boyle; Investigating Committee, Wm. Morrall, Peter McHugh, John Yemm; Assistant Foreman, Thos. Minnick; Sergeant at Arms, Neal McNelis; Assistant Foreman, Jas. D. Boyle; Fire Chief, Jas. L. Gallagher.

In 1907, the Town Hall was erected at the corner of Third St. and Howard Ave. at a cost of \$15,000. The Firemen's room is located on the second floor.

Today the Company consists of a well organized group of 176 members. The present officers are: President, John Williams; Recording Secy., John Davis; Financial Secy., John Johnson; Treas., Thomas Price; Fire Chief, Irvin Murphy.

In 1908, the Town Council bought for the newly organized Fire Co. its first fire truck, a Howe motor driven pumper and chemical engine for \$5,000. It was one of the first of its kind in Pennsylvania and the first in Schuylkill County. After being in use for six years, it was discarded for it proved to be unsatisfactory.

After discarding the motor driven engine, a horse drawn fire engine was purchased by the Town Council. Two horses were purchased by the

Fire Department. John (Buster) Hoben was the first driver of this team of horses. All of the equipment of the Howe engine was transferred to the horse drawn engine with the exception of the pumper.

In 1916, the Firemen purchased a motor driven combination, pumper, and chemical engine from the Hahn Motor Company of Hamburg. Motor driven fire apparatus was still an experiment in 1916 and this Hahn engine purchased at this time proved to be unsatisfactory, although it served the purpose until 1923, when a Reo chemical engine was purchased through Michael Domin. This engine is still in use and has proven to be successful.

The Firemen realized the necessity of a pumper that would give them enough pressure to fight any fire that might break out in the community. In 1928 the Firemen purchased a new Seagraves at a cost of \$12,500. It is equipped with a centrifugal pump which has a capacity of 1000 gallons per minute. During the last six years, the Firemen have worked hard to pay the debt incurred by the purchase of this engine. They run their Annual Fireman's Ball, a few card parties and a drive for donations each year. To date they still owe a balance of \$2,500.

The first fire alarm system was a bell on the Town Hall. It was purchased by the Firemen a short time after their organization. As the town grew, the bell became obsolete as a fire alarm, and in 1925 the Firemen installed a new Gamewell Fire Alarm system at a cost of \$6,000. This system is connected with a large whistle at the Coaldale Colliery of the Lehigh Navigation Coal Co. There are fourteen alarm boxes scattered throughout the town.

THE GENEALOGY OF JOHN MOSER

Committee: Clem Yeasulitis, Justina Sedlock, Anna Polonsky, Mary Rayder, Joseph Ambrose, Francis Bugaravage, John Yankovic.

John Moser, one of the pioneer settlers of the Panther Creek Valley, and the first settler of Coaldale was the son of Burkhart Moser. Burkhart was born in Lynn Twp., Lehigh County, and was the first settler of Tamaqua, where John was born.

John Moser was married to Catherine Wertman. To them were born four daughters, Mary, Elizabeth, Katherine and Esther. The descendants are grouped by generations. John I, Mary, Elizabeth, Katherine and Esther 2; and so on to the fifth generation.

John Moser-Catherine Wertman, 1805-1893

John Moser 1.

Mary Moser Barrett 2; Katherine Barrett Delay 3; Elizabeth Barrett Moser 3; Thomas Barrett 3; Mary Barrett Mitchell 3; Esther Barrett Walker 3; John Barrett, Frank Barrett twins 3; Ella Barrett Bottomly 3; Anna Barrett Olson 3.

Elizabeth Moser Houser 2; Ella Houser Stevens 3; John Houser 3; Albert Houser 3.

Katherine Moser Kuntz 2; Elizabeth Kuntz 3; John Kuntz 3; William Kuntz 3.

Esther Moser Bobst 2; William Bobst 3; Ella Bobst 3; Wallace Bobst 3; Harry Bobst 3.

John Moser 1.

Mary Moser Barrett 2.

Katherine Barrett Delay 3.

William Delay 4; Thomas Delay 4; Marie Delay 5; Esther Delay 5; Katherine Delay 5; Budette Delay 5; William Delay 5.

Hannah Delay Summers 4; Katherine Summers 5; William Summers 5; John Summers 5.

Kate Delay Brennan 4; Katherine Brennan 5; Helen Brennan 5; William Brennan 5; Mary Brennan 5.

Mary Delay English 4; Mary English 5; James English 5; William English 5.

Jeremiah Delay 4; Edward Delay 5; Helen Delay 5; Mary Delay 5; Katherine Delay 5; Grace Delay 5; Anna Delay 5; Regina Delay 5; Alice Delay 5; Thomas Delay 5; Rita Delay 5; Geraldine Delay 5; Theresa Delay 5; William Delay 5.

Helen Delay Dougherty, 4; Michael Dougherty 5; Mary Dougherty 5.

Elizabeth Barrett Moser 3; Dora Moser Becker 4; Albert Becker 5.

Ella Moser Kraeger 4; Williard Kraeger 5; Elizabeth Kraeger 5.

Thomas Moser 4.

Guy Moser 4.

Burkhart Moser 4; Burkhart Moser 5; Martha Moser 5; Ray Moser 5; Jack Moser 5.

Maud Moser Cottle 4; Mable Moser Williams 4; Elizabeth Williams 5.

Thomas Barrett 3; Grace Barrett Crissey 4; Grace Crissey 5; Richard Crissey 5.

Lewis Barrett 4; Lewis Barrett 5; John Barrett 5; Thomas Barrett 5; Mary Barrett 5; Cornelius Barrett 5; Margaret Barrett 5; Elizabeth Barrett 5.

Marie Barrett Bickleman 4; Marie Bickleman 5; Joan Bickleman 5.

Thomas Barrett 4; Rose Marie Barrett 5; Anna Barrett 5; Helen Barrett 5; Thomas Barrett 5.

Helen Barrett 4; Katherine Barrett. Mary Barrett Mitchell 3; Ella Mitchell 4; Clarence Mitchell 4; John Mitchell 4; John Mitchell 5; Frank Mitchell 5; Elenore Mitchell 5.

Frank Mitchell 4; Frank Mitchell 5; William Mitchell 5.

Marie Mitchell Helps 4; Thomas Helps 5; Louise Helps 5; Marie Helps 5.

Thomas Mitchell 4; Marie Mitchell 5; Thomas Mitchell 5.

Joseph H. Zerbey History, Pottsville and Schuylkill County, Penna.

Esther Barrett Walker 3; Robert Walker 4; Roy Walker 5.

Frank Walker 4; Thomas Walker 4; Thomas Walker 5; Byron Walker 5.

Aleck Walker 4; Hazle Walker Remally 4; Darlene Remally 5; Esther Remally 5.

John Barrett, (twin Frank) 3; Mary Barrett Kotch 4; Marian Kotch 5; Shirley Kotch 5.

Frank Barrett, (twin John), 3; Harold Barrett 4; Aulene Barrett Whimmer 4; Robert Whimmer 5.

Ella Barrett Bottomly 3; John Bottomly 4; William Bottomly 4; Molly Bottomly Winterstorm 4; Marian Winterstorm 5; Isabelle Winterstorm 5; William Winterstorm 5.

Thomas Bottomly 4; Thomas Bottomly 5.

Ruth Bottomly Mayer 4; James Mayer 5.

Naomi Bottomly Sinclair 4.

Anna Barrett Olson 3; William Olson 4; William Olson 5.

Elizabeth Moser Houser 2; Ella Houser Stevens 3; Edna Stevens 4; Harry Stevens 4; Janette Stevens 5; Frank Stevens 5.

Raymond Houser 4; Raymond Houser 5; Walter Houser 5; Margaret Houser 5.

Wilbur Houser 4.

John Houser 3; Edith Houser Kurt 4; Christine Kurt 5.

Lidia Houser Warner 4; John Warner 5; George Warner 5.

Helen Houser 4.

Christine Houser 4.

Gretchen Houser 4.

Albert Houser 3; Dorothy Houser Evans 4; Thomas Evans 5; Dorothy Evans 5.

John Houser 4; Robert Houser 4; Ruth Houser 5; Dorothy Houser 5; Betty Houser 5.

Thomas Houser 4; Louise Houser Burke 4; Paul Burke 5; Mary Burke 5.

Frank Houser 4.

Katherine Moser Kuntz 2; Elizabeth Kuntz 3; John Kuntz 3.

(Unrecorded).

William Kuntz 3; William Kuntz 4.

Esther Moser Bobst 2; William Bobst 3; Richard Bobst 4; Wilbur Bobst 5; William Bobst 5; Richard Bobst 5.

Florence Bobst Grey 4; Harold Grey 5; Charles Grey 5.

Ethel Bobst Sterner 4; Margaret Sterner 5; Georgine Sterner 5.

Ella Bobst Sterner 3; Ralph Sterner 4.

Wallace Bobst 3; Phillip Bobst 4.

Harry Bobst 3; Marion Bobst Horn 4.

COAL INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

Committee: Jos. Dvorsky, Geo. Julo, Jos. Sofsky, Andrew Moren and John Yancovich.

Because of the length of the Coaldale history, it was necessary to let the history of the coal development of Coaldale go until a later date when a general mine story will be printed.

Locomotives Made Delano History

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper"*, March 13-16, 1934)

(By H. O. MOSER)

Attorney-at-Law, Mt. Carmel, Pa.,
Former Delano Boy

The history of the Township of Delano is virtually summed up and complete in the history of the little railroad town of Delano, its chief, and almost sole, community. Except for a few homes in the mining hamlet of Trenton, located on the western edge of the township, the bustling little industrial town which gave its name to this rugged corner of Schuylkill County has within its confines almost the total population of the township; and it has contributed a mighty share of human achievement to the history of this county.

In corporate existence, the town antedates the township by twenty-one years. On Jan. 20, 1882, the common pleas court of Schuylkill County signed the order creating the Township of Delano. In the early part of 1861 the enterprise and ambition of far-seeing industrial leaders put into play the forces that established in this mountain wilderness a place in which to make their industrial dreams come true. It required faith and vision of the highest order to see in this wild mountain setting the scene of outstanding accomplishment in the future. Shaggy mountain sides, slashed and scarred by rocky ravines and gaps, a broad plateau reaching to still higher slopes and summits, all clothed with dense growth of virgin timber—that was Delano Township seventy-five years ago.

In this mountain fastness was established an industry out of which came developments to attract the at-

tention of the world and which drew from far and wide artisans of keen mind and skilled hands, who made invaluable contributions to the world of industry.

A further claim to distinction for the little township is in its very name, for it shares with the President of the United States, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the proud name of an aristocratic old New York family. Indeed, the name "Delano" reaches back into antiquity along a line of noble and royal ancestry. In its original form, the name was De la Noye, the first of that name, Phillipe De la Noye, having arrived in America in 1621 and being a direct ancestor of the President.

It was Warren Delano, 2nd, maternal grandfather of the President, who, in the early 50's, was attracted to this region by the rapid development of rich anthracite fields and the ever-increasing markets for the commodity in that early day. Associated with his brother, Franklin H. Delano, with Peter Brooks and John Forbes, of Boston, Judge Asa Packer, of Mauch Chunk, and others, Mr. Delano purchased about 5200 acres of mining lands on the headwaters of Mahanoy Creek and the Schuylkill River, this land covering a large portion of the area later to be known as Delano Township. The 225-acre tract comprising the site of the town of Delano was included in this purchase.

The prompt development of the coal measures underlying the lands thus acquired resulted directly in the founding of the railroad center which was named in honor of Warren Delano, prime moving spirit in the enterprise that opened to commerce

this rich anthracite section of Schuylkill County. Mr. Delano and his associates held the title to this large tract until July 1, 1872, when it was conveyed to the Delano Land Company and, later, on Nov. 2, 1891, by this company to the Lehigh Valley Railroad Co. In the fall of 1926, the railroad company plotted the 255-acre town tract and disposed of most of the lots to its employees who occupied the homes erected thereon. The consideration paid by the Delano Land Co. to the Delano interests for the 5229-acre coal tract was \$2,000,000.00, giving an idea of the immense value of the coal deposits.

Early in the year 1861, the opening of new anthracite mines in this part of the county brought the need for improved transportation facilities. Up to this time the product of the mines had reached the eastern markets over the Philadelphia and Reading Railway and the Schuylkill Canal. Judge Asa Packer was interested in the Lehigh and Mahanoy Railroad, the Lehigh Valley Railroad, the Canal at East Mauch Chunk and in the mines in the Delano section. It soon became apparent to him and his associates that the building of a new line from these mines to connect with lines already serving the canal at East Mauch Chunk and the Lehigh Valley Railroad at that point would open new markets and return large profits to themselves.

The Lehigh and Mahanoy Railroad, chartered in 1857, had already built a single-track line through the Quakake Valley, connecting the Hazleton and Beaver Meadow Railroad at Black Creek Junction with the Reading and Catawissa Railways at Quakake. On March 22, 1859, a supplement to this charter granted the right to extend this line to the headwaters and down the Mahanoy Creek as far as expedient. Under this authority, the Lehigh and Mahanoy Railway extended its Quakake Valley line to the pres-

ent site of the town of Delano and westward to the location of the new anthracite mines being developed.

The contract for the construction of the extension was given to Peter and James Collins, of Ebensburg, Pa., and the work was under the direct supervision of Michael Reynolds, construction superintendent, who was shortly thereafter to become the first permanent resident of Delano. The work was started early in 1861 and in the same year began the clearing of the virgin forests covering the Delano plateau for the location of the new town that was born out of this industrial venture.

With the opening of the new mines and the consequent need for new transportation lines, it became evident that a convenient location for necessary motive power, repair shops, classification yards and other appurtenances must also be found. The Delano plateau was the logical site, since here was ample space for yards, shops, office buildings, round houses and homes for the employees and their families. The elevation of the site was the deciding factor in its selection, as it provided moderately ascending grade from the mines to the yards and a long descending grade from the yards to the canal at East Mauch Chunk.

The first homes in Delano were built in the midst of the forest. Temporary buildings had been erected to accommodate the men employed in the construction of the railroad extension. When this work began, no highways yet connected the place with the outside world. The nearest road was the old turnpike between Tamaqua and Catawissa, which ran within a mile of the site across the mountains to the north. A rough path had been cut from this road down the mountain and across the Delano plain to Mahanoy City by Joseph Neifert of Quakake, supervisor of Rush Township at that time.

The first house to be occupied permanently in Delano was that which housed the family of Michael Reynolds, and it was in this house that Delano's first baby was born, on Oct. 28, 1864—Margaret Reynolds—now Mrs. Margaret Reynolds Engle, who still resides in Delano within a few yards of the place where she was born. Most of the buildings in Delano were erected under the supervision of Samuel Depew, Sr., father of J. A. Depew, the latter for many years a prominent figure in the business and political life of Schuylkill County.

By 1865 sixteen residences had been built, besides shops, office buildings and round houses. The shop buildings were completed in 1864 and the erection of residences continued for several years as the need for them arose. By 1878 most of the buildings in the town had been constructed. The population of the town had increased to about 1000 or 1200, at which figure it has remained with little variation down to this date. The first school building in the town was ready for use in 1865 and the first town hall was erected in 1875, this hall being used for church purposes also.

Industrial activities in the new town began in 1863, when the first shipments of coal to the markets over the newly-built railroad came through. The first passenger train out of Delano ran to Mahanoy City on June 19, 1863. The first equipment for the new line was a second-hand locomotive of the Mogul type, built by the Taunton Locomotive Works, and it was delivered to the Lehigh and Mahanoy Railroad over the Catawissa Railroad at Quakake and run to Delano under its own steam. Other locomotives were soon added, all second-hand and of different makes. By the spring of 1865, nine of these engines had been delivered for service.

Construction of the first shops was completed in 1864. These were or-

iginally intended to make needed repairs to the road equipment, but almost at the beginning of their operation, they became the center of international interest because of the brilliant genius of their first master mechanic, Alexander Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell had been secured from the Camden and Amboy Railroad at White Hill, N. J. by Superintendent James I. Blakslee, and it was a master stroke on his part.

The building of the shops at Delano was done under Mr. Mitchell's direction and he planned their construction with a far-sighted vision that was not shared by his contemporaries. The locomotive of that day was an insignificant thing—not much larger than the present-day mine lokie. Mr. Mitchell early saw the need for more powerful engines to conquer the mountain grades in his new field. He planned his shops accordingly.

In 1865 he drew plans for a new-type engine that was destined to revolutionize engine-building in that day. The Delano shops were not yet prepared to construct an engine of this size, although already a number of engines had been rebuilt there. Accompanied by Superintendent James I. Blakslee, he visited the Baldwin Locomotive Shops at Philadelphia and laid his plans before Matthias W. Baldwin, head of that concern. After a careful study of the plans, Mr. Baldwin said that his shops could not construct the engine because of its great size and weight, and he stated as his opinion that the engine would not operate successfully if built. Mr. Mitchell refused to accept this opinion and finally said that the Grant Locomotive Works of Paterson, N. J., had asked to see the plans and that he would take the matter up with them. Mr. Baldwin replied that what the Grant people could do his company could do, and agreed to build the engine.

It was necessary to provide new equipment for building this great engine, it required seven months to build it, and it was delivered at Delano on July 10, 1866, and immediately put into service, proving from the beginning to be the great success predicted by Mr. Mitchell. It was given the number 63 and the name Consolidation, the name being selected because of the consolidation of the Lehigh and Mahanoy Railroad with the Beaver Meadow Railroad in that year. The name of the new engine was adopted to designate this type of locomotive and the sensation it created in the world of industry was nation-wide and extended, indeed, beyond the borders of this country. One of the later models, somewhat larger than the original, was exhibited at the Centennial Exposition, in Philadelphia, in 1876, and attracted the notice of engineers from many countries. Descriptions of the engine were published in a London engineering magazine. The consolidation type locomotive became one of the most popular ever constructed and is still in use in every part of the world.

This contribution to the progress of the world in the realm of mechanics is Delano's chief claim to industrial fame, and so outstanding was the reputation of its shops and its brilliant master mechanic that engineers from every part of the United States and some from abroad came to visit the shops and to take back with them some of the advanced ideas originating in the fertile mind of Mr. Mitchell.

Delano (which means Delano Township) has been throughout its whole existence an industrial community, all of its activities in this field centering in railroad and shop operation. In 1871, then under the leadership of a new master mechanic in the person of John Campbell, the first entirely new engine was built in Delano, and,

continuing for a period that ended in 1892, many more new engines were built and many others rebuilt. Mr. Campbell, another noted master mechanic, designed many new things in engine and shop construction, one of the chief ones being the camel-back type, which is still in very general use.

During this time Delano's importance as a railroad center steadily increased. It was made division headquarters for the Mahanoy Division in 1865. In 1866 the Lehigh and Mahanoy Railroad was merged with the Lehigh Valley Railroad, which, since that time, has operated the railroad business in Delano. Alonzo P. Blakslee, whose connection with Delano began in the 60's, was the assistant superintendent of the Mahanoy Division until the death of his father, when he became superintendent. He held that position until his resignation in 1898, having resided in Delano during his whole tenure of office.

The two decades from 1880 to 1900 found the little community a veritable hive of industry. At the peak of its prosperity, seventeen passenger trains operated daily out of the town to towns within a radius of twenty miles. Increasing coal and other freight traffic kept its railroad lines humming day and night. Its shops were at work every day, repairing, rebuilding and building engines, passenger cars and in some departments doing work for the whole Lehigh Valley system. The little town itself could not supply enough labor for all this activity, and several hundred men came in from the surrounding towns and country to find steady employment.

On April 1, 1898, Superintendent Blakslee resigned his position, after a continuous association with the affairs of Delano and the Lehigh Valley Railroad of over thirty years. This was the beginning of a revolution in

the history of the town that assumed almost cataclysmic proportions. On Oct. 24, 1898, division headquarters were moved to Hazleton, following the appointment of John T. Keith as superintendent and the consolidation of the Mahanoy and Hazleton Divisions at about the same time. That was the start of vast changes in the fortunes of this busy industrial center. In 1899 the shops, whose fame had for thirty-five years carried the name of Delano almost around the world, were dismantled and moved to Weatherly. With the shops went the master craftsmen who had manned them, together with their families. It was as though a great cyclone had swooped down suddenly upon the place and with a monstrous twist picked up shops, equipment and men and scattered them as a giant sower might broadcast his seed over wide areas.

Many of the mechanics severed their connection with the Lehigh Valley Railroad at this time and sought other fields of usefulness and have in the years since established themselves securely in widely-scattered places. Old Delano is represented today by its former sons and daughters in more than half the states of the Union.

Although staggered by the violent changes that had occurred with such startling rapidity, Delano continued without abatement its activities as a busy railroad community. No longer a shop town, the places left vacant by departing shopmen and their families were promptly filled by the families of railroad men from the surrounding countryside who had heretofore not been able to find homes in the town. Although half of the people of the town had been removed at one fell swoop, there was no change numerically in the population. Delano remains one of the rare communities in which the problem of vacant homes has never arisen.

Since 1900 there has been little change in the industrial scene in Delano Township. The town of Delano has maintained its activity as a railroad center of importance. Although its one-time busy passenger service has been virtually eliminated, the volume of coal and through-freight traffic continues; subject, of course, to changing tides of national prosperity.

The Lehigh Valley Railroad has always maintained there an operating force under the supervision of an assistant trainmaster, to handle the very profitable business that still continues to flow through this little transportation gateway. Delano today is still a very-much-alive bustling community, making valuable contribution to the history of Schuylkill County.

The acquisition of the homes in Delano by the employees occupying them has meant much to the advancement of the interests of the town. These homes, under individual ownership, have been modernized and greatly improved in appearance; and other improvements have been effected in the town, making it a more attractive place than ever in which to reside. Its lofty mountain elevation and fine supply of pure water have always made it a most healthful dwelling place.

On the western edge of the township is located the only other community it contains—the little mining hamlet of Trenton. Except for the school building, which belongs to the Delano Township school district, the activities of this little place really belong to Mahanoy Township, since its men are all employed in the mines of that township.

Creating A New Township

For the first twenty-one years of the existence of the town of Delano it was located in Rush Township, which, until Delano came into being,

was entirely an agricultural section. The rapid development of the new railroad industry within the borders of Rush, with the aggressive and progressive type of citizens produced in the growing town, brought increasing friction in the administration of the affairs of the township. Delano demanded for its children a longer school term than agricultural Rush felt was necessary, and other differences arose until, finally, on November 14, 1881, a petition was presented to the court for quarter sessions of Schuylkill County, setting forth these growing antagonisms and praying for the appointment of a commission to make recommendations on the erection of a new township.

It is interesting to note in reading this petition that the eighty-seven signers to the petition were all residents of the rural portion of the township. It is evident, from the language of the petition, that, in Rush Township affairs, the tail was wagging the dog, and the dog liked the situation so little that it besought the court to separate it from its presumptuous caudal appendage.

On Jan. 30, 1882, the court made the order setting up the new township of Delano, the boundaries established by that order enclosing as rugged a bit of topography as can be found in any political subdivision anywhere. This little corner of the county had already brought enduring fame to itself and to the county as well, and out of the new township was to come a fine breed of upstanding citizens, as rugged in character and intellect as the surroundings in which they were reared. Leaders in the industrial world, in the professions and trades, have come, and are coming, out of Delano.

Community Interests

The pioneer settlers in Delano came from many places. By virtue of the nature of its industry, men who were

trained in their trades had to be secured. Many came from Mauch Chunk, others from Pottsville, large numbers from the surrounding rural communities, while still others came direct from the old country—many English, Welsh, Scotch, Irish and Germans having settled in Delano direct from their overseas homes.

The community from the beginning was intensely interested in the things that count most in life. One of the first steps for the advancement of the highest interests of the residents was the establishing of a library, early in the 60's. This was provided by contributions from the people themselves, with the assistance of the railroad company, which also supplied books on mechanics and a valve motion machine for the instruction of its employees.

A literary society was early organized and, later, a debating and minstrel organization, all of which added much to the social life of the town. House parties made up much of the social diversion, birthday anniversaries being frequently the occasions for these enjoyable affairs. Many of the gifts given at these parties can no doubt be found even yet, stored away in closets by the housewives of those early days—ornate china and glassware, setting hens on catch-alls, tall cake-plates made to hold the sky-scraper layer-cakes so popular in that day, fancy china lamp shades with hand-painted blue-birds, and many other things on sale today only in antique shops.

The Delano Band was an organization that contributed much to Delano's reputation for worth-while accomplishments. Organized in the 80's, it was under the direction of Henry V. Perry, a train-master for the Lehigh Valley and a musician-born, for practically its whole career. It participated in many events all over the region and elicited favorable notice wherever it appeared.

The beautiful picnic grove established early in the history of the town in a magnificent natural setting of great trees on the western edge of the town proved to be another fine asset to Delano. This fine recreation centre became the mecca of the whole region within a radius of twenty miles and more, for festive picnic occasions. The railroad company equipped the park with many amusement features, and great excursion trains brought merry-makers from every part of Schuylkill County and from several of the surrounding counties, all through the summer months. It retained its popularity for a period of about twenty years.

The fraternal spirit manifested itself early in the town by the organization of Camp 72, P. O. S. of A. on March 27th, 1878, beginning with twenty charter members. Of these, three are still living—George Butler, of Weatherly, Pa., Harry Artz, of Altoona, Pa., and Robert Martin, of Mahanoy City, Pa. This camp has had a splendid history and is still very active in the affairs of Delano.

On Oct. 9, 1883, Asa Packer Lodge, No. 328, I. O. O. F., was organized with twenty-one charter members. Of these, Henry F. Bickle, of Plainfield, N. J., and Andrew Klinger, of Allentown, Pa., are still living. This lodge is still in a most flourishing condition.

The Knights of the Golden Eagle maintained a lodge in Delano for many years, but they were compelled to surrender their charter in 1905 because of the loss of most of their membership through the removal of the shops.

Two women's lodges, the Patriotic Order of Americans and the Sons and Daughters of Liberty, have had a long and honorable history in the town and are still very much alive in fraternal, or more correctly sorority circles there.

Military Records

Delano has always had an enviable record in matters of patriotism. It sent many men to the front in three of the great wars in which this nation participated.

Thirteen of its citizens were on the roster of Civil War veterans. The Spanish-American War drew nine young men from the town into the ranks of the country's forces. No less than thirty-nine of its splendid youth served in the World War, in various units; many of them in overseas service. The first Delano boy to lay down his life in this war was Harry Brill, who died at Camp Harrison, Ind.

Business Life

The mercantile business in Delano has been confined principally to one store throughout its whole history. The famed "Pefferwasser" Shop and several other small confectionery and cigar stores have done business from time to time, but the bulk of the town's business has been transacted in the same building from the very beginning of its history.

The first store manager was a man named Watson, who operated the store in the 60's, when it was first built in the midst of the forest. A. P. Blakslee took over the business in the 70's and continued as its owner until his departure from Delano in 1898. J. A. Depew, who had been associated with Mr. Blakslee in the business for many years prior to this, succeeded him as owner and manager and remained in that position until his death in 1925. Mr. Depew was one of Schuylkill County's outstanding citizens, active in business, banking and political life for many years. His widow assumed the ownership of the store upon his death, with George and Charles Hofmann as managers. Both of these men have been connected with the store since 1882. Since Mrs. Depew's death recently,

the business is being operated by her estate, under the management of the Hofmann Brothers.

George Hofmann has been postmaster in Delano for many years and he has the unique record of having made every report for that office since 1882. He is also one of the township supervisors, treasurer of the school board and has been bookkeeper for the store since 1882, while his brother Charles has been in charge of the store operation for a large part of that time.

The drug store at Delano has been in business since the 60's. It was established by Dr. Phaon Hermany of Mahanoy City, taken over later by A. P. Blakslee and, later, in succession, by J. A. Depew, Samuel Depew, Jr., and his sons, and is at present owned and operated by James Kelly Shaup.

Dr. Phaon Hermany was Delano's first physician, serving from 1863 until 1916. Dr. Lewis A. Flexer practiced in Delano from 1879 until his death in 1910, having been a resident of the town from 1900. Upon the death of Dr. Flexer, his practice was taken over by Dr. J. M. Kuhns, who was succeeded by Dr. A. R. Dengler, who moved to Allentown, Pa., after a long residence in Delano. Since then Dr. Dever of McAdoo has been the town's physician, maintaining an office in Delano but residing in McAdoo.

Delano was represented in the political world by a number of its citizens. J. A. Depew for a long time was active politically, while James Walton has had a wider experience and service in that field than the average man, having held over the years many of the important county offices. Probably the highest political honor bestowed upon a son of Delano was that given to James I. Blakslee, who was Third Assistant Postmaster General in President Wilson's administration.

One of the institutions of Delano about which centered much activity and interest was the boarding house, maintained to care for the many men who worked in Delano and resided in other places. Its first manager was Aaron Lattig, who came from Easton. He was followed by William Snyder of Ringtown, who was succeeded by Edward Glenn, yardmaster for the railroad for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Glenn conducted this very necessary hostelry until it was closed about 1900.

The water supply in Delano is provided by mountain springs of purest water. A small dam was built by the railroad company in the 60's to supply its shops and engines and also the residents of the town. In 1879 four new dams were built to meet the increasing needs of the town and industry and in 1895 a much larger reservoir was constructed above the old ones. The supply from the springs is now augmented by water pumped from an artesian well in the direction of Girard Manor.

The Delano plateau forms a divide, over which a portion of its surplus water is carried westward into Mahanoy Creek and the remainder southward into the Schuylkill River.

Educational Matters

The story of education in the township of Delano forms one of the brightest chapters in its history. From the humblest of beginnings in a one-room building, this indispensable requirement in the development of a symmetrical life has grown to the proud eminence of a completely graded system of secondary schools, including a high school that is rated in the first class by the State Department of Education.

The first school was opened in Delano in the fall of 1865, starting with eight pupils in charge of Miss Miriam Le Van, daughter of Delano's first

train dispatcher. Miss Le Van had graduated from the Easton High School in 1864 and came to Delano shortly thereafter.

The first school building was erected in the summer of 1865 and was a one-room structure, 25 ft. by 25 ft. in size. The first year the pupils sat on ordinary chairs about a table to receive instruction, no desks and seats having yet been provided. The branches taught were reading, writing and arithmetic.

It is interesting to note here that Miss Le Van (now Mrs. Moore) is still living in her home at Wilkes-Barre, Pa. The compiler of this sketch visited her home there just a few days before these facts were set down. She is now eighty-five years of age and a most engaging conversationalist, with an astonishing memory for the happenings of these early days.

The last of those first eight pupils died within the past year—Wm. McCarrall, who was one of the outstanding men who came out of Delano. He was for many years associated with the Baldwin Locomotive Works of Philadelphia as their foreign representative and had traveled for them in every part of the civilized world. Much of the history related here touching on Delano's chief industry came from records kept by him.

The school in Delano grew rapidly and the second term found the little building taxed to its capacity. Miss Le Van taught only the first year in Delano. Other teachers followed in quick succession.

In 1870 it became necessary to provide more space for the increasing number of pupils and a large two-story, four-room structure was built in that year. Upon the completion of this building, the people of Delano demanded that an additional month be added to the school term. The town was at that time still a part of Rush Township, and six months con-

stituted the regular school term. With the opening of the new building, Delano was granted this additional month.

In the first term in the new building only two of the four rooms were used for school purposes, the other two rooms being occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Sarge, the teachers that year, for residence purposes. With the coming, in 1882, of Professor John B. Anthony, a new era in Delano school life began. Three very flourishing departments were at work then, schools being graded from first to ninth. The opening of the term in 1882 also marked the beginning of school history in the new township of Delano.

The Delano Township schools started their first term with 188 pupils, 99 girls and 89 boys. The term was extended to nine months, which was unusual in that day for any community. The principal received a salary of \$50 per month and the grade teachers each \$38.75. These salaries were also much above the average paid teachers then. In fact, Delano has had an enviable reputation for generous treatment of its teachers throughout its whole history, as well as for its concern that its children receive the best to be had in education. The tax rate for school purposes that year was eight mills.

Another big forward step in the school life of Delano was taken in 1890, with the completion of a two-story, brick structure, containing all the modern equipment in use in that day, including the Smead heating system which provided, also, automatic ventilation. To teachers who had been required to do janitor service daily, this new building was the last word in convenience.

Mr. Kreider, of Hazleton, was the first principal to have charge of the schools in the new building. He was succeeded the next year by Prof. J. M. Schrope, with whose coming the

first high school in Delano was organized. He was given authority by the board of education to organize an up-to-date school and he came to the town with the experience necessary to accomplish that end, having organized the high school of Porter Township in Tower City several years before. The new high school began with a two-year course, which was the standing of most high schools of that day. The first class to graduate from this new school completed the course in 1893 and consisted of two members—Hattie McMullen and Leon Bailey.

Mr. Schrope remained in charge of the Delano schools as supervising principal until the close of the 1906 term, when he resigned and went to Pottsville, where later for many years he was assistant county superintendent. He reached the retirement age just a few months ago.

Prof. G. W. Hemminger followed Mr. Schrope as principal and remained in that position until the close of the 1909 term. Since 1900 an assistant principal has been on the corps. In 1908 a two-room frame structure was built adjoining the brick building and an additional grade teacher added to the staff, giving each grade teacher two grades to teach.

The year 1910 marked another high point in the advance of the schools. Professor Maurice Singley, who had been assistant principal of the schools since 1905, was elevated to the post of supervising principal, which he still retains after an unusually long and fine record. With his coming, grammar school work was eliminated from the high school course. The high school in that year was classified as a third-class school, which was on a par with the classification of many districts much larger than Delano.

In 1911 the high school was advanced to the second-class. The teachers of the whole township were at least normal school graduates, this

standard, indeed, having been maintained in Delano since 1895. At the present writing, all Delano teachers from first to sixth are graduates of teachers' colleges; and from grades seven to twelve, college graduates. Salaries in the district have always ranked with the best paid in the State.

At the reorganization of the schools in 1921, manual training, domestic science and instrumental music were added to the course, which already included, besides regular high school studies, public speaking, supervised vocal music and art. This district was one of the first in the county to introduce these latter courses.

Another reorganization of the system in 1921 brought the recognition of the department of education as a junior-senior high school on the six-five plan. This plan was not completely satisfactory, either to the local district or the state department of education, since it did not provide a complete four-year high school course. The department advised the district to furnish transportation for its graduates to attend the Mahanoy Township high schools for grades eleven and twelve, or to furnish an additional room and teacher and put the schools on a six-six system.

Acting upon this suggestion, the township voted on a proposition to build an addition to the school building and the proposal carried with but three dissenting votes. This addition, 40 feet by 80 feet, two stories in height, and of brick construction, was completed in 1927 at a cost of \$40,000. It contains a large auditorium, three class-rooms, an office, domestic science room, laboratory and manual training room. It was dedicated with elaborate ceremonies on February 17, 1928, and Delano is now provided with ample facilities for the best things in the educational world for its young people.

With the opening of the new building, a further revision in study courses was made. Another full-time teacher was added, with an art teacher, who teaches art one day each week to grades seven to twelve. Both the art and music teachers are now full-time teachers.

The Delano high school, as at present constituted, offers these studies to its students:

First year—mathematics, English, Latin, civics and general science. Second year—mathematics, English, Latin, American history and chemistry. Third year—mathematics, English, Latin, problems of democracy and physics. Instruction is also given in health, guidance and physical education, public speaking and dramatics, with vocal and instrumental music, art and sheet metal work. A fine band and orchestra are maintained under the leadership of a competent instructor.

Recently the railroad company turned over to the school district the use of the abandoned carpenter shop, which has been fitted up for basketball purposes. The high school has an excellent baseball team and a full line of school sports has been adopted.

Quite a number of students from Ryan, Rush and Kline Townships are enrolled in the Delano high school. Besides the schools maintained within the town limits, a two-room building erected in 1897 is in use in the village of Trenton, in which two teachers are engaged in teaching grades one to six. These schools belong to the township school district. Upon completion of the grades there, its students enroll in the Delano schools.

The faculty of the Delano Township school district is made up of twelve teachers, of whom Professor Maurice Singley is the supervising principal.

Religion

At the heart of the life of the little town of Delano throughout its whole

history has been a deep and constant devotion to things spiritual. Its record of more than three score years and ten of clean community living, remarkably free from the sinister shadow of crime, is largely attributable to that fact.

One of the first concerns of the pioneers was to establish the means for the worship of God. In the beginning the residents of the little town worshipped in the churches of Mahanoy City, five miles distant. Travel to and from there was by means of a hand-truck, the passengers furnishing their own motive power.

The residents of the Catholic faith at first worshipped at Tamaqua, but early became members of the parish of St. Canicus Roman Catholic Church of Mahanoy City, where the present residents still worship.

With the building of the first little school house in 1865, a Sunday School was established in Delano through the efforts of David Fletcher, for many years general foreman of the shops. Josiah Swank, father of Robert Swank, Esq., one of Schuylkill County's prominent lawyers, was another pioneer who was active in the religious life of Delano during his long residence there, being superintendent of the first Sunday School established and holding that same position when he left Delano in 1899.

In 1867 the first preaching services were started in Delano by Rev. I. C. Burkholter, then pastor of the Lutheran Church of Mahanoy City. This was the beginning of a Lutheran ministry in Delano that has continued without interruption to this day, the present Lutheran pastor being Rev. Lester B. Lutz.

Very early in the history of the town the Reformed Church of Tamaqua served the people of Delano through its pastors and, sometime later, St. Paul's Reformed Church of Mahanoy City took over this work, remaining in the field until about

nine years ago, when the Grace Reformed Church of the same place assumed charge of the Delano work, the Rev. C. M. Baver being the present Reformed pastor.

For a short time in the pioneer days the Rev. Mr. Wood, of the Presbyterian Church of Mahanoy City, preached in Delano. A flourishing Episcopalian parish was maintained in Delano for quite a number of years, under the pastorate of the Rev. Mr. Kilgore, rector of the Episcopal Church of Mahanoy City. Later the Rev. Mr. Turner became rector of the church at Delano, residing in the town for a time. The church services and Sunday School of the St. James Episcopal Church of Delano were held in the second floor of the freight house. Upon the removal of the shops and division headquarters from Delano in 1898, most of the members of this parish left the town and the congregation was disbanded.

In 1895 the Methodist Episcopal Church established a charge in Delano, the Rev. W. W. Hartman being the first minister to serve there. For twenty years this denomination maintained an aggressive ministry in the town, fourteen ministers, in turn, having served the church, all of them residing in the town during their ministries. This church started with a membership of 31 and reached its highest membership of 119 in 1910. It closed its ministry there in 1914.

Several years ago the Evangelical Church began holding services in the town and is still serving Delano, alternately with the Lutheran and Reformed Churches of Mahanoy City. The Rev. William Friday is the pastor of the Evangelical denomination, residing in Quakake.

A very active Union Sunday School has been at work in Delano from the beginning of its history to this time. The Christian Endeavor Society has also had a long and splendid service among the young people of the town.

The senior society was organized by Mr. Schrope upon his arrival in Delano in 1892 and the junior society was under the direction of Miss Florence Richards, for thirteen years a teacher in the Delano schools. Both of these societies extended their influence well beyond the borders of the town. The junior society was at one time considered the model for other societies in Schuylkill County and was looked upon as the center of Junior Endeavor work in the county at that time.

The first place of worship in the town was the one-room school building erected in 1865. Later the four-room school building was used and, with the erection of the town hall in 1875, that site became the center of religious activities and has so continued to this day. In 1897 it became necessary to enlarge this building and an addition 28 feet by 40 feet was built to the original hall, providing an assembly room large enough to serve the people of the town for its religious and literary activities for thirty-two years.

In 1924 the Christian people of the community purposed in their hearts to erect for the worship of God a temple to be set apart wholly for that cause. Union Hall had served admirably for fifty years, but it had been a community center for the varied activities of the townspeople and there had always been a longing in the hearts of the devout for a church home dedicated to the one end of serving God.

A committee consisting of Walter Patterson, Sr., Pres.; Wm. J. Sharkey, Secy.; Garfield James, Treas.; Prof. Maurice Singley and George Opp was appointed on March 15, 1924. Title to the church site was secured from the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company in October, 1926. A church corporation under the name of Delano Union Church was chartered on Nov. 17, 1926.

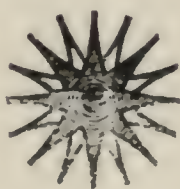
The plans of the Park Crest Building Company were accepted Aug. 9, 1929, and on the 20th of the same month the work of razing Union Hall commenced. Work on the new building began Aug. 22, 1929, and the cornerstone of the new edifice was laid Sept. 29, 1929. The church building was dedicated Dec. 28, 1929, with dedicatory services extending throughout the week.

With the completion and occupation of this new church home, Delano began a new era in its religious life. The beautiful chapel was the consummation of a dream held by its builders for many years.

The total cost of the building and equipment was well over \$22,000, most of which has since been liquidated.

The seating capacity is about 250 and the interior furnishings are beautiful. Standing in the heart of the town, this beautiful edifice is the visible evidence of the faith of its builders in the future of the community and in the overruling providence of God.

On this note this brief sketch of Delano Township may well close. Unique in many ways—in industrial fame, in unusual turn of fortune, in reputation for accomplishment out of all proportion to its size, in its high standards of citizenship—Delano Township has added to the history of Schuylkill County a wealth of notable achievement.



Mines Caused Growth of Ashland

(From "Republican"-*"Morning Paper"*, March 17, 1934)

The greater part of the material for the History of Ashland was collected by Edwin K. Lessig. The following sources were also used for collecting data:—"Pennsylvania" by Geo. P. Donehoo, 1926; "Underground" by Thos. N. Knox, 1874; "Old Schuylkill Tales" by Ella Zerbey Elliott; "History of Schuylkill County" by Munsell & Co., 1881; "History of Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania", by A. W. Schalck and Hon. D. C. Henning, 1881.

In the early days of the nineteenth century, a stage line ran from Pottsville to Danville, through what is now the town of Ashland in the western part of Schuylkill County. As late as 1840, not one sagacious passenger, on that old stage coach stopping at Jacob Rodenberger's log tavern (near what is now Seventh and Middle Streets) could be induced to trade even a jack knife for the whole of the tangled wilderness and swamp which was one day to become a thriving little mining town of 7,000 inhabitants.

What a change the discovery of anthracite made! Industry in capital letters predominated. A man named Burd S. Patterson was farsighted enough to see a prosperous town growing in the sloping ravine running westward from the headwaters of the Mahanoy Creek near Mahanoy City. This portion of the Mahanoy Valley for about fifteen miles contained rich deposits of coal. The faith of Mr. Patterson was so great that in 1845 he persuaded John P. Brock and James Hart to join him in the purchase of the tract. From the Bank of Pennsylvania they purchased 400 acres of land at thirty dollars per acre; and from Judge Gordon of Reading, another 400 acres at eleven dollars per acre. This tract was called the Ashland

Estate after the birthplace of Henry Clay.

First Houses

By the year 1846 the tavern of Jacob Rodenberger either had fallen into decay or had been judged inadequate, and the proprietors of the Ashland Estate presented two lots on the southwest corner of Third and Centre Streets to Jacob Larrish, on condition that he would erect and conduct a tavern on the lots. The inn was built the same year and formed the nucleus of one of the town's leading hotels—The Ashland House. This was the first real house built in Ashland.

In 1846, Samuel Lewis made a survey, laying out the town plot essentially as it exists today. Crude streets were opened and the construction of coal company houses was begun. In 1852, the same year that Colonel J. J. Connor and Thos. Patterson (brother of Burd Patterson) began the Wadleigh slope and breaker, a Jonathan Faust built a frame store at 521-523 Centre St. This store disappeared in the early 80's. When the first gangway was opened at the Wadleigh, in 1853, Col. Connor built the brick store which still stands at the northwest corner of Third and Centre Streets. The bricks for this building were made at the brickyard of Jacob Fisher and

Paul Straub, just north of the Third Street crossing of the Reading Railway.

Another early brick building was that of Judge Rahn, built in 1855 at the southwest corner of Seventh and Centre Sts. It was a hotel, known for several years as the Mahanoy House, and later as the popular Repplier House. As a hotel, the edifice passed out of existence in 1875. It was purchased by John B. Price, who conducted a dry goods store in it until 1923, when it was sold to H. Fred Lauer, real estate agent. Mr. Lauer renovated the building, making it into a modern apartment house. The first floor is occupied by Woolworth's Five and Ten Cent Store.

The store building (now faced with frame) between Fifth and Sixth Sts. on Centre, and for many years the headquarters of the P. & R. C. & I. Co. in Ashland, was built by John P. Brock in the 50's. In the 70's the first floor was occupied by John Kemmerer as a harness shop, and by Frank Foster as a shoe store.

The Odd Fellows' Temple, Ashland's first theatre, was completed in April 1867. This building has gone through several disastrous fires and has been remodeled time and again. The main building, however, is almost unchanged.

Railroads

The Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad was built to Third Street in 1854, but it was 1856 before wood-burning locomotives began to haul coal to Gordon for shipment over the plane. The Mahanoy and Broad Mountain Railroad came later, and what is now the "upper" route was built to Locust Dale. Both the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven and the Mahanoy and Broad Mountain Railroads were later absorbed by the Philadelphia and

Reading Railroad. The Lehigh Valley built the Mahanoy Division into Ashland in the late 70's.

Woodwork Plants

About 1857, Adam Waldner came to Ashland and engaged in the contracting and building business. In 1882, he secured land east of the gas house and built a planing mill in which all kinds of millwork, interior finish, office and bar fixtures were manufactured. Mr. Waldner remained the active head of this business until his death in 1921. The business is now carried on by his three sons.

In 1876, Wm. Bright built a planing mill in the angle north of Arch Street and west of Catawissa Road. Later it was operated by his son, Hunter F. Bright. A disastrous fire wiped out the plant on May 18, 1912. About 1915 Howard C. Yost purchased the ground and today maintains a lumber yard, operating under the name of the Ashland Lumber Company.

The firm of Kraft and Loeper began the manufacture of caskets in a shop located about a hundred yards west of the Reading Railway station. In 1893 the manufacture of caskets was abandoned. The plant has since been engaged in general cabinet work and store and office fixtures. It is still operated by Anton Loeper with the able assistance of several of his sons.

Other Industries

In the late 80's and early 90's Wm. A. Strohmeier operated a soap factory in the building on the southeast corner of Fifth and Walnut Sts.

In the 60's, Lewis Bush had a brewery on the northeast corner of Fifteenth and Centre Sts. It disappeared in the early 80's.

In 1853, L. P. Garner and his brother came from Pottsville and built the first iron works, opposite Loeper's mill. This plant was de-

stroyed by fire in 1858, but another was built on Third Street where Sausser's monument works now are. In 1864, Lewis Garner retired and the firm was known as J. and M. Garner until 1880, when Michael Garner retired and the business was then conducted by Jos. N. Garner until his death, and by his sons until the plant was sold in 1901 to the Goyne Steam Pump Company.

In 1876, Lewis Garner built a foundry on the three lots at the southwest corner of Front and Centre Sts. This building later became the property of John B. Price, who leased it in 1881 to the Goyne Brothers. This firm remained in the Front Street property until 1889 when they incorporated as the Goyne Steam Pump Company and built the shops at East Ashland. They acquired the Jos. N. Garner plant on Third Street and operated it until 1912 when the machinery was removed to the East Ashland shops which had been enlarged. The original Goyne brothers are now dead but the plant is still operated by their sons.

Hamilton Adams began the manufacture of woven wire screens for separating coal, at the corner of Chestnut and Catawissa Road. This was in the early 60's. In 1870, Geo. H. Helfrich bought the plant, which he in turn sold to Albert L. Laubenstein about 1879. This plant was removed to Second and Brock Sts. About 1897 perforated metal plates displaced the woven wire, and a new building was erected just north of the Third Street crossing of the Reading Railway. Here machinery for perforating was installed and both kinds of screens made for some years. Mr. Laubenstein died in 1909 and the business has since been conducted by his sons.

Chas. S. Laubenstein operated a woven wire screen factory at Third and Brock Sts. until about 1915

when he retired. The shop was torn down in 1924.

In 1863, Reuben Lins erected the first and only flour mill in the town. It was operated by Lins and Egolf until 1866, when it was purchased by Lessig and Levan. The following year Mr. Levan's interest was purchased by Wm. A. Lessig. The manufacture of flour was discontinued in 1896, but later business was again started in 1906 by Jacob Lessig and Sons. This firm went out of business in 1931.

Wesley Manley had a carriage and wagon shop established in 1865 at Eighth and Market Sts. Ill health forced his retirement in 1880, when the business was continued under the firm name of the Co-operative Wagon Works. George Leib had charge of the blacksmith and iron work; John Mast of the wheelwright and woodwork; Llewellyn Prosser of the paint shop. The business prospered until the advent of the automobile.

The Enterprise Carriage Works were located on Middle Street between Seventh and Eighth. Joseph Smith, the organizer, built several of Ashland's hose carriages. The shop closed 1915.

On the corner of Fourth and Centre Sts., from 1886 to 1895, George Beller and John X. Dence operated a factory in which men's boots and shoes were made.

A Mr. Galland came to Ashland about 1888 and interested local capital in a shirt factory. A building was erected on Oakland Avenue at the intersection of Chestnut Street. Several years later the firm failed, and E. C. Price then used the building as a stocking mill. In the late 90's the Cumberland Shirt Co. occupied the building which was destroyed by fire in 1913. Later, the Cumberland Company bought the

site and rebuilt an enlarged plant, which in 1920 came into the possession of Samuel Valentine. Mr. Valentine operated the factory until his removal to Baltimore in 1931. At present the plant, known as the Ashland Shirt and Pajama Company, Inc. is under the control of Max Gitman and Albert Kaplan.

About 1930, Paul Reidler, of Cresona, opened a factory at the corner of Eleventh and Pine Sts., known as the Ashland Knitting Mills.

Newspapers

Ashland's first newspaper was the "Mining Gazetteer" published by a J. H. McElwain. This paper started in 1857 was suspended in 1863.

"The Constitutional Advocate", begun in 1864, was a weekly paper which continued until 1900. In 1889, J. Irvin Steele started the first daily paper, known as "The Evening Telegram" which was suspended on Sept. 30, 1924.

Other weekly papers were: "Ashland Record", started in the 70's and discontinued 1900; "News", 1895 to 1904; "Local", 1898 to 1905.

In the 90's "The Evening Telegram" had a foreman named Grant Kyler. Nolan Kyler, his son, had graduated from printer's devil and had become a journeyman printer. Kyler and Son bought the little "News" from Jacob Keihl, and the press and equipment of the "Local." These men published "The Ashland News" as a daily, the first issue appearing Dec. 1, 1909. In the latter part of September 1924, "The News" bought the equipment and goodwill of "The Evening Telegram", and Kyler and Son became proprietors of the only paper in Ashland. Grant Kyler died in 1924, leaving his son to continue the publication of the paper.

Banks

About 1865, the Ashland Banking Co. organized with Mahlon M. Mock

as cashier. The bank occupied the building at the southeast corner of Sixth and Centre Sts. The failure of Jay Cook and Company involved the Banking Company in financial difficulty and the institution failed in the late 70's. This bank was usually spoken of as the "Dutch Bank."

The Ashland Savings Bank, known as the "Irish Bank", was organized in 1867 and failed later.

The First National Bank, located at 330 N. Centre St., failed in the late 70's.

The Citizen's National Bank opened June 6, 1875, and in 1880 moved into the old quarters of the First National Bank at 330 Centre St. In 1921, a larger and finer building was erected at 733-735 Centre St.

The Ashland National Bank opened Dec. 17, 1900, in a new building at 804-806 Centre St. In 1919, a new building was erected at the corner of Eighth and Centre Sts. In 1923, this building was much enlarged by a rear addition containing a large new vault.

Schools

The first public school building was erected in 1852 at the corner of Tenth and Walnut Sts. It was a brick construction containing six rooms. For many years this building was also used as a house of worship by congregations that had not yet erected churches. In 1876, another schoolhouse was built at the corner of Fifth and Walnut Sts. In the late 80's, this schoolhouse became a soap factory.

At the present time, Ashland has two parochial schools—one consisting of eight grades, connected with St. Mauritius Catholic Church; the other, twelve grades, under the control of St. Joseph's Catholic Church.

The town has five public school buildings:

Tenth St. School Building, 1852, Tenth and Walnut;

First St. School Building, 1878, Corner First and Centre;

Junior High, 1882, Ninth and Pine;

Estler Building, 1911, Seventeenth and Centre; and

Ashland High School, 1923, North Ninth St.

The total net enrollment in the schools is as follows, (1933): Public Schools, Elementary, grades 1 to 8, 823; High School, Ashland, 279; High School, Non-Resident, 157; total, 1259; St. Mauritius, Elementary, grades 1 to 8, 152; St. Joseph's, Elementary, grades 1 to 8, 360; High School, 100; total 460; Grand total, 1871.

Population of the Borough, 1930, 7164.

Churches

Ashland has ten churches—two Catholic, eight Protestant. The cor-

nerstone of the St. John's Episcopal Church, the first church to be built in town, was laid Sept. 24, 1856. Later, during 1857 and 1858, the following churches were erected: St. Joseph's, Baptist, English Lutheran, Reformed, St. Mauritius, Zion's Lutheran, Methodist, Evangelical, and Presbyterian, and in 1933, the Pentecostal.

Ashland A Borough

The Borough of Ashland was incorporated by an Act of Assembly dated Feb. 13, 1857. Its first officials were: Chief Burgess, Colonel J. J. Connor; High Constable, Jacob Gensel; Treasurer, Lewis P. Garner; Supervisor, Patrick Callahan; Councilmen, E. V. Thompson, Chas. Connor, Wm. Thomas, Lawrence Hannon, and John Orth.



Branch Township Dates Back to Year 1836

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The history of Branch Township was prepared by Florence E. Snyder, Librarian, Branch Township High School.

She is indebted to the following sources: To the check stub ledger of the school board of the district dating back to 1843; to the teachers' report-books of the various district schools; to Paul A. Noll, Supv. Principal; to H. A. Spangler for the Clouser Church records of 1821; to the old residents of the township; to J. A. Spannuth, of Pottsville, for records, deeds, etc., now in his possession.

Branch Township in 1836 was formed from the original township of Norwegian. This new formation included Reilly, Cass, part of Frailley, and Minersville Borough. In 1838 Minersville Borough was formed; In 1847 Reilly became a separate township and in 1848 Cass was formed, leaving approximately a land area of 4½ miles in length and 3¾ miles in width, or 10,500 acres, as Branch Township of today. Branch, however, retained the jurisdiction over the schools of the old township boundaries until 1851.

The town site of the principal village, (Llewellyn), was owned by Willing, Bunting and Shober, Philadelphia capitalists. These men divided the land into lots with a street and alley system, and sold them to the settlers. The streets bear the names of these men.

Other villages sprung up within the township; among them were Phoenix Park (originally Miller's Mines), of which Cornish Row formed a part; Silverton; West Wood; Stein's Mill; Dowdentown; Allison (Indian Run); Minersville Road and a large section of New Minersville.

The land surface is characterized by mountains and hills with narrow valleys between. The principal mountains, Sharp and Second, lie to the south. Muddy Branch Creek in the northwest of the township, and

Black Creek and Indian Run in the southeast, are the principle streams.

Early Settlers

Little legend has been handed down from the early settlers of their relationships with the Red Man. It is known that Indian Run in the southeastern section of the township had been a haven for Indian hunting and fishing. It is the same spot to which the Algonquin Indians are said to have made pilgrimages, long after the Red Man had been pushed westward. "This is the forest primeval," can be said of this section, for still stand virgin gum, pine and oak trees on these lands. Indian utensils found on the farm, now the residence of Frank Bosack, and an abundance of arrowheads found in the Silverton section furnish us with records of their struggle for existence within the boundaries of the township. The Swatara Creek, no longer in the township, has known the warlike spirit of the Red Man.

The history of the white man takes us back to 1750, when Jacob Hime, a lumberman and trapper, during the French and Indian War, built a saw-mill near the old abandoned road which passed the present Laura Starr property. Here Mr. Hime began the clearing which later became the site of Llewellyn. There is, however, a record that sometime prior to 1750 Mark Britton had a

saw-mill at the extreme east boundary of the township.

The first settler in the north-eastern section was Thomas Reed, who operated a saw-mill, some years later. He also kept the Half-Way-House. The Biddles also settled along the Sunbury Trail. Other settlers recorded as belonging to this period were the Adams, Philip and George Clouser, Peter Starr, Peter Zerbe, Andrew Steitzel (present Steitzel Hollow), John and Jacob Weaver, and the Foxes.

The next few decades brought the Cockills (who became the first business people of the township), the Fausts, the Gehres, and the Bresslers. The Cockills came from Philadelphia. The Fausts and Heims came from the Orwigsburg section.

1850 brought the Flibs, the Zimmermans, the Habers, the Bretz, the Confairs and the Longs.

The earliest obtainable record of the Clouser's Church which dates back to 1821, (situated one mile west of Llewellyn) lists among its members,—Philip Clouser, Nathaniel Alspach, Marie Reed, Hatty Britten, Jacob Zimmerman. J. C. Steitzel's birth is dated in the record as being 1740 and Elizabeth Blu, a daughter of Levi Blu, is dated as 1819.

Among the baptisms listed in 1821 are the children of Jacob Hime (a son of Jacob Hime, the pioneer settler), Daniel Reed, Levi Blu, and N. Britten.

The earliest settlers were Germans, who pursued farming, hunting, fishing and lumbering. These pioneers were followed by English and Irish capitalists and Welsh miners, the latter being responsible for changing the old name Patalona to the present Llewellyn.

The first log house was that of Jacob Faust. In 1830 the first frame dwelling was built by Willing, Bunting and Shober. The Ruddy home is the oldest frame building still

standing. The Bogart residence is also very old.

The first hotel was built in 1832 by Cornelius Coleman, a descendant of Cornelius Coleman, who settled in Louisiana in 1703. Johannes Cockill, Isaac Eisenhower and Henry Bressler were other keepers of this hotel.

A rival of the Coleman hotel was that of Jacob Hime, built in 1836. This was the same hotel (down by the Brickey), which housed the first public election in 1837. The ballots were passed through the window from the porch. Jacob Hime and John Moon were elected supervisors and Thomas B. Abbott and Samuel Harlem were the first Justices of the Peace.

Two routes were traversed in settling the region. These were the two Sunbury Trails, the one on the east boundary passing through Minersville, and the other on the west, leading from Pinegrove.

A story in connection with the early settlers is that of John B. Zerbe and his young bride, in search of a suitable place to establish a home. In their quest nightfall came upon them and they were obliged to spend the night in the vicinity of Llewellyn. Arising at daybreak to continue their journey, they beheld the sun rising from behind the majestic hills. They were so impressed with the beauty of the countryside that they decided to make their home on this lovely spot.

Religion

The first church dates back to the days when the township was included in Norwegian Township. In 1819, a log church, 86 ft. x 24 ft., was built near the present Clouser Church on the nine acres of ground donated by Lewis Reese, of Reading, by the members of the German Reformed and the German Lutheran Faith. The first Reformed pastor was Frederick C. Kroll; and the

first Lutheran Pastor, Rev. George Minnig. This log structure served as both church and school for many years.

About 1856 the present Clouser's church replaced the log building. Jacob Kone of Schuylkill Haven was the first Reformed pastor; and Daniel Sanner, the first Lutheran. In 1923, it was partially destroyed by fire.

The Reformed Congregation also held services in what is known as the Reformed Chapel on the hill near the present playground at Llewellyn. This was erected on the site donated by Willing, Bunting and Shober, which also included the Llewellyn Cemetery plot, the use of which was specified in the deed of Willing and Bunting as being a cemetery open to all citizens residing for at least six months within the Llewellyn Borough.

A few years later, the building now known as the Lutheran Chapel, just south of the above mentioned, was built primarily to relieve overcrowded school conditions. It was occupied by the United Brethern Congregation (1850) with Rev. Uhler as its first pastor.

In 1839, Ann Cockill organized the Methodist congregation, which later developed into a Union Church. Henry Bressler, J. Cockill and William Delcamp were the first trustees. In 1871 the present Methodist Church at Llewellyn was built. Rev. Morley was the first pastor, and R. H. Pattison, the father of Governor Pattison of Pennsylvania, was the first elder. Among its early membership are found the names of Mrs. Ezra Cockill, Mrs. D. H. Wilcox, (mother of Mrs. Hershey, a noted singer and wife of Ambassador Hershey), John Harris and Wm. Bush.

The first Sunday School in the township was organized at Llewellyn in 1840 by R. C. Hill. Supt. Mine

Hill Railroad. It met in the Clouser log church.

In 1843, another Sunday School was opened by the Welsh miners, which flourished for a period of 10 years.

Industries

Lumbering, farming, fishing and hunting occupied the early settlers up until the beginning of the mining industry, which has marked the increase and decrease in population and wealth of the district.

William Schull's map of "Province, Pa.," published in 1770, locates three places where coal was found in Schuylkill County. One of them was within the present boundaries of Branch Township.

The first coal operations were small drifts. Johannes Cockill worked one on the Forestville road and another on the Gum Boat drift on the Branchdale route.

Before the opening of the Schuylkill Canal in 1828, coal was hauled to Reading by mules from the Salem River Colliery located at Silverton. After the opening of the canal, the haul was shorter, being from the mines to the docks at Schuylkill Haven. Phoenix Park (near York Tunnel) also hauled coal to Schuylkill Haven at this time. These hauls took much of the profit of the industry.

In 1831, Salem River Colliery was operated by Samuel Brook and John Miller. Brook later sold to Mr. Heilner. Later, Fritz and Seltzer operated the workings; then Tyson and Kendrich, and finally Jones and Focht. Work was suspended for two years in 1836, on account of a land dispute. The breaker was destroyed by fire and never rebuilt.

1837, the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven R. R. built a line as far as the Forestville Colliery, with

Johannes Cockill as foreman. This railroad consisted of notched ties and wooden rails, with flat iron bars spiked to the surface.

About the same time as the Salem operation, West West was operated by Mr. Brook for a period of five years. Richard Wesley took over the work and continued until the operations were sold by the constable. It was purchased by Mellon, Snyder and Haywood. These men employed as high as 300 men and boys, and shipped 500 cars per day. Cresson and Brother built the West West Breaker. The fact that this tract was owned at one time by Cresson accounts for Crewsonville, a town mentioned in early records of this section. An explosion of sulphur ignited coal in the mine, and after unsuccessful attempts to quench the fire, the mine was flooded.

It was from West West that a letter was sent home to Wales, urging former neighbors to emigrate and take advantage of the new prosperity of the thriving village. Near the West West tract was the drift at the Barnhart farm. At this drift, three children lost their lives while picking coal.

May and Lightfoot operated in the township, and were instrumental in building what is now known as the back road to Minersville. At the time the road was built, there was not a single house between Llewellyn and Minersville.

In 1838, Phoenix Park was opened by Offerman Coal Co. In 1845, Chas. Miller built a breaker, which was destroyed by fire in 1849. It was rebuilt by the P. & R. C. & I. Co.

West Wood Colliery was opened in 1840 by Miller and Spencer, who worked it for 15 years. It was sold to Fogarty and Co.

Robert Leeler worked the Gate Veins in Dundas Tract, near Black Mine Colliery. H. A. Moodie and Co. operated it for two years. Hill and Betting operated it for many years later.

John Clouser shipped coal in 1842. Folden Wonn operated the same vein in 1852.

At the time of the working of the mines there existed at different times, 14 saw mills in the township, most of them run by water power. One was operated by John Clouser at the Gum Boot, and one at Ram Town, operated by Jacob Faust.

Two brick yards were in operation at an early date near the Laura Starr residence (at the old Brickey) a section rich in clay deposits. One was owned by John Rodgers, in 1846, and the other was operated by Merkle, Kauffman and Miller. The latter made the brick for the Clouser Church, and the Llewellyn grade schoolhouse.

A powder mill was built by Mr. Allison at Indian Run. It was leased to Captain W. C. Wren. It exploded in 1868, killing two employes.

Elick Fink ran a bootery, which was patronized by people from all over the county. It was housed in the present Spolski residence. As business increased, Fink enlarged his shop.

Rev. Carter, a well known Methodist preacher, tells of a pair of boots made for him by Fink, which he was unable to remove from his feet, and thus he was obliged to wear them in the pulpit.

W. H. Bressler was a cabinet-maker for many years.

A fire company was organized in 1902

The Llewellyn Cornet Band, now discontinued, was organized in 1884, and used the building now owned by the Llewellyn Hall Association. The latter association was organized in 1845, with J. F. Heim, J. F. Faust, Ezra Cockill, Geo. Gable, Wm. Zimmerman and Wm. Hock as charter members.

Between 1848-1858, the Freeman Council No. 68, of the United American Mechanics flourished. J. F. Heim, Ezra Cockill, Jonas Kauffman, Jacob Barnhart, H. D. Chance, D. Schropp, Wm. Hock, Wm. Berkeiser, Chas. Doner, S. K. Sherman were charter members.

1857-1870, the G. A. R. existed in the township. J. B. Brandt, H. J. Alspach, Hiram Chance, Henry Brodt, Thos. B. Thomas, Louis Zimmerman, A. T. Troutman and Wm. Straw were its early members. The P. O. S. of A., the P. O. A. and the Boy Scouts of America are organizations of Llewellyn.

Industrially, the township has had a glorious past, but at the present time, due to existing conditions, there is not a single field of industry open to its citizens, apart from the CWA project at the Athletic Field.

Patriotism

Peter Starr, a soldier who fought in the Revolutionary War, as well as the War of 1812, was the pioneer patriot.

Prior to the outbreak of the Civil War, a company of volunteers, known as the Llewellyn Riflers, drilled on the old baseball diamond, where, at a later date, Pop Ernst, of Lafayette fame, and Jake Daubert hurled their first baseball over the plate. This company frequently challenged a similar organization from Minersville to test their marksmanship.

At Lincoln's call to arms, the village of Llewellyn, with a population of 400, responded with an entire company and five captains. Among them were: Dr. Brandt, captain of Co. A, 50th Regiment; Hiram Chance, Henry Brodt and Horace Bennett, captain of the Schuylkill Guards of Minersville; Corp. David and Sgts. Alspach, Zimmerman, Barnhardt, Rupsiman, Bressler, Murphy and Maley. In addition to these, there were enlistments in the 50th Regiment sent out from Pottsville.

On the Sunday afternoon, during the farewell salute to the soldier boys, an accidental discharge of a cannon cost Mr. Garland his eyesight.

The World War received an equal response from the youth of the township. Many of them were overseas veterans.

Education

Pay schools were inaugurated as the first type of formal education. Fifty cents per month was the usual fee charged, and in the majority of cases, the instructor was obliged to take this sum out in board.

The first building of any size used for school purposes in the township was the Clouser Church. It was a one-story log structure. The interior was divided into two rooms by a partition which could be raised half-way to the ceiling. One room was furnished with a pulpit and altar for church purposes; the other room, with desks and benches. The building had but one stove which was moved from one room to the other as needed. In 1819 the instruction was in German, and included psalm-singing, catechism, reading, writing and arithmetic. Philip Delcamp was the pioneer teacher. In 1831 John Clark, of Lower Mahantongo township,

and Henry Miller, of Friedensburg, were teachers in the same building; the latter, as records indicate, served as both teacher and pastor.

The next school was located in Llewellyn proper, in an abandoned log house, located on the farm of Abraham Faust (near the present Neidhart home). When cold weather made school impossible in the log house, it was moved to the second floor of the Daubert building (now the Bogart home).

Another private school was operated on Bunting Street in the basement of the Faust property. It was taught by Lucy Sherman.

In September, 1837, the log house school on the Faust farm became a free school under the public school act, with Edward Holt as teacher. He came here with Johannes Cockill, who was a foreman on the Mine Hill Railroad construction project.

During the same year, Willing, Bunting and Shober donated a plot of ground for a free school and church. As funds were low, the citizens cleared the land and the building was erected with the timber found on the plot. It was built by W. H. Bressler. The building was thirty-two feet long and twenty-two feet wide. The seats and desks extended halfway across the room, with a center aisle. The desks had seats on both sides so that two rows of children faced each other. A frame ran across the center of the desks, on which wraps were hung. One hundred and fifteen children were crowded into this room. Edward Holt was assigned to this building as teacher. Cobbs' First and Second Reader and Cobbs' North American Reader were among the first books used in the district.

In connection with his teaching, Mr. Holt built a shed behind the schoolhouse, where he carried on the work as a veterinarian. Horses

from all over the country were brought to him to be treated. Near the schoolhouse, he maintained a large garden. Weed pulling and stone picking were not uncommon punishments inflicted upon the wayward boys.

Mr. Holt taught in the Sabbath school as well, and those who misbehaved on Sundays received their punishment on Mondays. After ten years of valuable service, Mr. Holt moved to Cressona, where he operated a flour mill.

The earliest minutes obtainable of any school board meeting are those of 1839. The board consisted of Jos. Dobbins, Jos. Mills, John F. Thun, Dr. Wm. A. Robbins, Martin Weaver, D. R. Bennett, Secretary; Johannes Cockill, President.

In 1839 the township operated four schools: Two in Minersville, taught by P. H. Lyman and Miss Eliza Bacon; one at Llewellyn, taught by Edward Holt; and one at Swatara, taught by Jeremiah Reed.

After Minersville became a borough on April 1, 1831, Branch continued as a distinct school district until 1851, having jurisdiction over the schools within the Borough. According to the check stubs for 1843, Branch paid rent for school room to the English Baptist Church of Minersville, amounting to forty dollars per year. This money was paid to Thos. Williams, then a trustee. Eighteen dollars was paid for the rent of a second building in the borough. The L. D. Jones Bldg. on 5th street was also rented. A room from Jacob Hime at one dollar; and two from Philip Ganis, one at Llewellyn and the other at Swatara, were also rented for the same purpose.

In 1844 the school lot at Muddy Branch was purchased from Jacob Clouser for fifty dollars.

In 1850, the district built a school house of its own at Swatara at a cost of two hundred dollars.

The year 1847 marks an increase in the number of schools and teachers. Those indicated by check stubs and early minute books are as follows: Cressonville; Muddy Branch; Westwood, in 1844; West West, in 1845; Costerville; two in Minersville; two in Llewellyn; Payne's Works (Heckscherville) 1841, with Fanny Freeman, teacher; Black Valley; Woodside; Swatara; Phoenix Colliery (Miller's Mines); Coal Castle, 1841, with Samuel Dobbins, teacher; and Mine Hill Gap. Old residents recall an additional school located near the present site of York Tunnel, taught at one time by Mr. Connelly.

In these schools from forty to one hundred and twenty-five pupils whose ages ranged from four to twenty years, were assigned to a single teacher.

In 1843, teachers received twenty-five dollars per month for their services. This amount was increased to thirty-two dollars per month in 1851. School opened in June and continued for ten months. Among the early teachers were Jacob Reigel, who taught at Muddy Branch and later practiced law in Ohio; Sela Brock, at West West. Lewis Provast and Christina Miller are also mentioned.

Some of the schools appear to have had two teachers, since James and Robert Love received a joint check of fifty dollars for their services as teachers at Phoenix Park. Herman Hall and wife were granted a joint check as teachers at Minersville. A. Y. Thomas, Arthur Connelly, R. Morris and Dickerson were also assigned to schools at Minersville during the period when that borough was in the Branch School District.

Phoenix Park seems to have been one of the largest schools in the district and embraced the territory up to the old Costerville site. Demands for a school in this vicinity appeared very early in the school history. Mining operations had reached considerable proportions by 1837 in this section.

West West, back of the present Neuser farm, was a large district. Mrs. Garland, an old resident, recalls that some fifty houses comprised the settlement, which consisted of three sections, with a Union church and school. The school was square in shape and took care of sixty children or more. Pupils remained in school at West West much longer than other schools of the district. Record books show pupils attending this school between the ages of sixteen and twenty.

The Westwood school house was first located at the junction of the old Llewellyn-Pottsville Road and the Westwood-Pottsville road. One half of the schoolhouse was the home of a family by the name of Flagerty. The district later built a school on what is now known as School Hill, on the Charles Zimmerman farm. Some of the foundation of the school is still standing. About 1865 Dowdowntown replaced the Westwood school.

The Muddy Branch school was housed in the present Heffner home at Stein's Mill.

Schools Overcrowded

Due to increase in mining operations, the schools of Llewellyn became overcrowded, and in 1847 a second building was erected near the first one, now the Lutheran Sunday School building. At the same time, this building was used by the United Brethren as a church. It was built by Ezra Cockill at a cost of three hundred eighty-four

dollars. Among the specifications was a chimney and a fire place. Miss Wilson was the first teacher in the new building as well as the first woman teacher in the township.

In 1843, Mr. Burd introduced algebra into the schools. He left and went west when gold was discovered in California.

After Minersville and Cass became separate school districts, the township maintained eleven schools until 1857, when Reilly township became a distinct school district. At this time Branch, as a foster mother in school matters of the entire region, relinquished her parental rights and allowed the fledglings to take care of themselves; and henceforth attended only to the schools within her political boundaries.

In 1855, the school board decided to build a brick schoolhouse, the cost not to exceed five thousand dollars. It was to consist of four rooms if necessary. Two lots on Bunting Street were purchased from F. B. Hughes for eighty-seven dollars. The erection of the building was accomplished in spite of petitions against it. Frank Zimmerman, one of the oldest residents of the township, helped to make the brick for the schoolhouse, at the Miller-Kauffman brick yard. The members of the board at this time were Ezra Cockill, Daniel Hove-rocker, Gabriel Drake, Gideon Merkle and Oscar Robins.

The first principal of the new building was J. Evans, from 1857 to 1860. He was followed by Mr. Burge, of Pottsville, from January 1860 to October 1861, when he resigned to take up arms in defense of the North in the Civil War. John J. Hopkins, of Minersville, finished the term. His successor was Daniel D. Dillman. He was followed by George W. Channel, who came from

Chester County, and served until 1868.

Some of the old residents of Llewellyn recall Mr. Channel teaching in his soldier's uniform. He was a leading educator of the county, serving as supervising principal at Pinegrove and at Port Carbon, after he left Llewellyn. He was followed by E. S. Reinhold, who left Llewellyn to become principal of the Mahanoy City High School, and later Cashier of the Union National Bank, Mahanoy City, and afterward professor at the Crozier Theological Seminary, Chester, Pa.

F. C. McDonald, who taught at Westwood and Phoenix Park and was highly esteemed as a teacher, was moved to the principalship after Mr. Reinhold's resignation. H. H. Spayd followed McDonald, and taught until 1871, when he went to Minersville, where he taught until 1908. C. D. Arters, W. N. Ehrhart, J. W. Clemens (Minersville attorney) E. G. Faust, B. F. Luckenbill, W. F. Kutzer, were among those who filled the principalship, prior to 1904. Robert Bashore, D. H. Christ and George Oerther also taught in the township. In 1904, a township high school was created with M. J. Metzgar as its principal. He served three years and was followed by F. Nester and Charles Henninger. Paul A. Noll, the present principal, was elected in 1911.

The present High School Building was erected in 1914. At that time schools were maintained at Stein's Mill, Silverton, Dowd-entown, Minersville Road and Phoenix Park.

At present there are five buildings in Llewellyn devoted to school purposes, two schools at Phoenix Park; one at Minersville Road; with a total enrollment of 525 pupils and 25 teachers.

In the schools most recent history, drama and music have seen

much development. Both boys' and girls' athletic teams have captured league championships.

In 1922 one of the best equipped playgrounds in the state was established by the district. It is one of the beauty spots of the township, and is enjoyed by children and adults from all over the county. A few years later the large athletic field was planned and constructed.

In 1928, the school band was organized, and for the past two or three years has been self-supporting. A school orchestra and a bugle

corps have been developments of the past four years.

The present school directors are Vincent Murphy, President; Chas. Semmet, Treasurer; Daniel Bush, Lester Artz, Roy Hossler, with Miss Alva J. Dando, Secretary.

These are some of the cold facts that enter into the history of Branch township, but the hopes, ambitions, struggles and endeavors can be gleaned only by personal contact with those who feel the pride and spirit of its noble past. "We the People" of the township move and live in this spirit.



Gordon Was First Known as Perote

(From "Pottsville Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* March 21-24, 1934)

The history of Gordon was compiled by Miss Florence Trometter, teacher in the High School. The Methodist Church history was contributed by Rev. John M. Stevens; the history of the P. O. S. of A. by W. O. Seitzinger, a member of the organization for 55 years; the history of public schools, by W. O. Seitzinger, a member of the Board of Education for over 42 years; the facts about the Boy Scouts by John Constantine, a Scout of Troop 43; the Fire Company history by W. H. Maurer, and that of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen by Mrs. Emma V. Lewis.

Gordon, now an important railway town at the foot of the Gordon Planes, built in 1855 by the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad Company, and formerly part of Butler Township, was settled and developed because of its anthracite coal interests.

In the early days this section of Butler Township was nothing more than a wilderness, crossed from southeast to northwest by the old "Centre Turnpike" which extended from Sunbury to Pottsville and Reading. Along it, as early as 1810, stood an occasional hostelry, where "accommodation for man and beast" was cheerfully proffered. At that date the sole representative of that class of inns was the "Seitzinger Tavern" at what is now Fountain Springs, which is named for Nicholas Seitzinger, who is believed to have made a clearing there as early as 1795. Among the earliest settlers of this section were the Seitzingers, Fausts, Rodenbergers, Wyncoops, Perotes, Thompsons, Rasbridges and Knabbs, who found it an easy matter to secure their food. All they needed to do was to capture and tame a young doe and when fresh

meat was wanted to send her out to decoy others within rifle range. Beasts of prey also abounded, and the settlers soon became accustomed to the howling of the gray wolf, often beneath their cabin windows.

In the early 1800's the section of Gordon extending from the farm now owned by J. G. Johnson to the site of the Public School, was first settled and named Perote by Colonel Wyncoop on his return from the Mexican War; Perote being the name of the place where their last battle was fought.

However, a time worn chart exists, endorsed "Draft of three tracts of land, the property of David and James McKnight." The earliest warranty date is March 24, 1788, the land being patented Aug. 19, 1795, to John Knuckle; and the adjoining tract westward bears a warrant date of April 16, 1792, and was patented to the same party Aug. 19, 1795. Of the 17 tracts shown on the draft, seven are patented to members of the Knuckle family, and it was the remnant of these lands that came into the possession of the McKnights of Reading, whose descendants founded the town of Gordon, named by them

after Judge Gordon of Reading, to whom they gave a lot which was conveyed by him to Mrs. J. F. Lewis, by the first deed ever recorded covering a real estate sale in that place. The lot is on the corner of what was then Main and McKnight streets and is now the property of John F. Lewis, Borough Assessor, which property also contains the U. S. Postoffice, with Miss Anna Martin as Postmistress.

In 1846 Wm. Stevenson built a steam saw mill at a point below the site of the village, known on the old maps as Mt. Hope. He also built a new road now forming the principal street of the village, Bid-dle Street, named for Nicholas Bid-dle, the first man to shed blood in the Civil War. Andrew Wilson erected a hotel at the extreme eastern end of the town to board the workmen at the mill, which structure still stands on the property of J. G. Johnson. The place which was known as Reddy's Cafe was built by H. W. Hubler about 1883, it was supplemented by one kept by a man named Johnson, about a year later.

At this time, houses were few and scattered. The east end of Perote consisted of a group of 14 houses, and the building now used as a barn by C. R. Seitzinger, one of the first in the town, was occupied by a family of negroes who later moved into a small cabin along the Broad Mountain road. Another building of early significance was a tavern or hotel, also in Perote, owned by a Mr. Myers, and occupied for seven years by Captain Israel Seitzinger, father of W. O. Seitzinger, one of Gordon's oldest citizens. Because of the number of poor families who later took shelter there, it became known as the "Poor House." Hobart and McKnight Streets, named for the

McKnights who founded the town, were not cleared until many years later. Two women, one a Mrs. Troutman, were responsible for these streets being laid out. They supplied money for workmen to clear the woods, and even assisted them with hatchets and saws. One of the oldest houses still standing on McKnight Street is the hotel owned by the Gable brothers. A second saw mill was built on a flat behind the Hartz property, by a Mr. Thompson, which was an inducement for the settlement of McKnight Street. These two saw mills were the only source of employment for many years.

The building of the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad and the staking out of the planes was the first real influence that attracted immigration to Gordon. The erection of the planes was a slow job, interrupted for some time by the limited financial conditions of the company. Finally in 1855, the planes were completed and from that date until the present time, Gordon has grown steadily in population and influence. The planes were designed by R. A. Wilder, Superintendent of the Mine Hill Railroad, who held a life's interest in them in the form of a royalty for every ton of coal taken over the plane. The Mine Hill Railroad extended only as far as Hesters, one mile west of Locust Gap, and east as far as Big Mine Run. Since it had no other outlet it was the purpose of the plane to hoist coal, brought from intermediate points, over the plane to Schuylkill Haven, where it was loaded into boats and taken to Philadelphia via the Schuylkill Canal. It was contracted to hoist coal by a certain date and because of some deficiency, the coal cars were first hoisted by a

team of forty mules driven by John Temple to the head of the plane. After the completion of the plane, mules were used only at the foot and between the planes, small locomotives having been substituted for the mules in 1867.

The older residents recall how the mule drivers at the planes, taking great pride in their teams, would each Sunday lead them to the Little Mahanoy Creek, east of Gordon, for the purpose of bathing them. This part of the creek still bears the name of "The Mule Hole" or "Muley," and here many of our youthful Isaac Waltons spend much of their spare time at their favorite sport.

Thus the Gordon Planes, which for many years was the mechanical wonder of the vicinity, lifted from 1500 to 2000 cars of coal daily over the mountain; and formed an outlet for an extensive field which, without this mechanical assistance to the ordinary railroad, would have been unable to mine coal with any profit. Sometime in the late 1890's a section of the planes burned, and it was discovered that all coal could be hoisted and shipped over the Mahanoy Plane, thus necessitating the abandonment of the Gordon Plane. Mr. Van Buren was the second superintendent of the plane and occupied the house in which James Troy now lives, one of the first and oldest houses in the town.

Became Separate Borough

Gordon remained part of Butler Township until the year 1891, at which time, feeling the desire to handle their own affairs, the citizens petitioned the court to become a separate borough. The first meeting was held April 2, 1891, when Mr. Rentz, Notary Pub-

lic of Ashland, swore in the following members of the borough council: C. A. Kleber, 3 years; Ebenezer Davis, 3 years; J. G. Gregory, 2 years; D. D. Phillips, 2 years; J. H. Pounder, 1 year; Thomas Resbridge, 3 years.

The council was organized by electing D. D. Phillips, President; Ebenezer Davis, Secretary; and N. M. Franks, first principle of Gordon School, as Town Clerk. The other town officers were:

W. F. Wilson, Treasurer; W. A. Marr, Solicitor, (later Judge of Schuylkill Co. Courts); Wm. Mason, Chief Burgess; James Hill, High Constable.

The first meetings were held in the school building; later the meetings were held in the Saving Fund Building now used as a garage by R. L. Haas. Some of the earliest ventures of Gordon as a borough were the improvement of the streets and roads, including the substitution of a culvert for the bridge which crossed the intersection of Biddle and Hobart Streets, the installation of a municipal gas plant including street and house lighting in 1909. The street lights were lighted nightly until eleven o'clock, and on moonlight nights, not at all. With the predominance of electricity the gas plant was discontinued in the early twenties. Today not more than ten families are without this convenience. Gordon as a borough made another step forward several years ago when its streets were improved by the laying of macadam. Within the past year, however, the State has taken over Biddle Street, connecting it with the State Highway leading to Hegins and thence to Harrisburg.

Early Religious Activities

The first congregation for religious worship at Gordon was assembled in a school-house in the outskirts of the village about 1854 by Rev. Joseph Adams, who was located in Northumberland County and a member of the Northumberland Presbytery. He preached in the above named place every two weeks for several years. There were a few Methodist families in the village, and, during the ministrations of Rev. Adams, a union Sunday School, composed of Presbyterians and Methodists, was organized in the same school house.

Rev. Robert C. Bryson, of Ashland, became the successor of Rev. Adams, serving also the Presbyterian congregation at Gordon. It was not long until the school house became too small to accommodate the children for the public school. Then a new school house was built nearer the center of the village.

Rev. Bryson continued to serve the Presbyterians, whose congregation outnumbered the Methodists. When it was thought expedient to erect a church edifice a vote was taken by the citizens to decide which denomination should have the choice of building. It was decided in favor of the Presbyterians, who, in 1860, built the church alongside of the public school house on the lot presented by the McKnights of Reading, and they secured a clear title for the same. The edifice cost about \$2,500. The Northumberland Presbytery donated \$1,000 toward the enterprise.

This edifice remained in possession of the Presbyterians until Dec. 2, 1872, when, on account of their decrease in membership caused by many removals, it was purchased for the sum of \$1,300, by the Metho-

dists, who had by this time, increased in membership.

In the meanwhile, several Lutheran families appeared in the place. These, with the surviving Presbyterians, were served successively by Revs. Sikes, Curtis and Hackenburg, pastors of the Lutheran Church at Ashland. One by the name of Washburne, an Episcopalian minister of Ashland, also served them for a while.

In 1877, the church, being involved in debt, was sold, and was purchased by the Lutheran denomination for \$600. The Methodist Society was compelled to seek a shelter elsewhere. The Lutheran church at Gordon was organized by Rev. O. D. S. Marclay on Sept. 3, 1876.

The Lutheran Church

The Gordon Lutheran Church was first connected with St. James' Lutheran Church at Ashland. Upon its organization there were 62 members. The first communion roll, a month after the organization, embraced a list of 72 members. The first sacrament of the Lord's Supper was held Oct. 29, 1876. Out of the possible 72 persons on the Communion roll, only 17 partook of the first Communion. The first pastor's salary was fixed at "\$150 per year and horse hire." At a congregational meeting, April 29, 1877, it was voted to buy the Church building from Wm. Wilson for the sum of \$600. Extensive repairs were made to the property at the cost of \$148.70, which was collected by two ladies and one man. This seems to have been the origin of the Ladies' Aid Society.

The first janitor elected was Thos. Rasbridge in 1877. During this year the Church petitioned to be admitted to the Lebanon Con-

ference of the East Pennsylvania Synod. Rev. Marclay's work at Gordon closed March 1, 1878.

The second pastor of the Lutheran Church was Rev. D. E. Rupley. His stay in Gordon was not long, for his call to another field brought his services to an end in March 1879.

Rev. Rupley was followed by Rev. J. H. Weber in November, 1879. Large things were done in a material way, especially in the alterations to the church building. In 1885 the church was separated from the church at Ashland and was legally incorporated under the name of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. In the same year the property then owned by George Hudson, now owned by Dr. W. T. Fedko, was purchased as a parsonage. In 1886 Rev. Weber resigned, having served the congregation over a period of seven successful years.

Rev. W. G. Thrall became the first pastor belonging exclusively to St. Paul's at Gordon, from 1886 to 1887. It was during his pastorate in Gordon that the Union Sunday School was disbanded and the Sunday School then formed became known as the Lutheran Sabbath School.

Rev. C. M. Sandt became the pastor July 1, 1888, serving the congregation for two years. It was during his administration on the night of March 28, 1890, that one of the worst fires in Gordon's history, originating in the school house (a large frame building standing next to the church) destroyed both the school house and the church. Services were then held in the P. O. S. of A. Hall until a new edifice could be erected. The corner-stone of the new church was laid Oct. 5, 1890, on the site of the former

one. After the death of his wife, Rev. Sandt resigned as minister in Oct. 1891.

Rev. A. R. Glaze began his work at Gordon Jan. 1, 1892. It was under his leadership that a large portion of the church debt was cancelled, but because of financial conditions, he was compelled to resign after serving the Gordon congregation for five years.

The successor to Rev. Glaze was Rev. G. E. Hipsley, who occupied the house of Lawson Hubler as a parsonage, the home now occupied by John Lavelle. Rev. Hipsley left Gordon Aug. 1, 1900, accepting a call to St. Luke's Church, Baltimore.

Rev. P. E. Bierbauer was the next pastor at St. Paul's, under whose leadership the church indebtedness was paid off. In March 1904, a pipe organ was installed, used for the first time Easter Sunday. Because of ill health, Rev. Bierbauer was compelled to give up the work of the ministry entirely.

Rev. E. E. Schantz was elected as the ninth pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. He temporarily rented a house on the "Green," then moved to the new parsonage on Hobart Street which was purchased by the church, Oct. 22, 1904. Rev. Schantz resigned the Gordon pastorate June, 1908 to accept a call to Schaefferstown.

Rev. C. R. Myers, still a student at Susquehanna University, was elected as the next pastor, serving as a supply pastor until after his graduation in May 1909. During the early part of his ministry he boarded with the family that had temporarily rented the parsonage after Rev. Schantz's departure. But it soon became necessary for the new pastor to occupy the entire parsonage, for on Jan. 12, 1910,

he married Miss Edith Dreher, one of the active workers among the younger ladies of the Church. Extensive improvements to the church and parsonage were made during the pastorate of Rev. Myers. After serving the congregation for two years, he accepted a call to a Phila. church.

Rev. Myers was succeeded by Rev. Paul Froehlich, Nov. 20, 1910. Besides many material improvements being made, one event of outstanding importance in his pastorate was the organization of the Fellowship Bible Class, Jan. 22, 1911. The 35th anniversary services of St. Paul's were held in Sept. 1911, and proved to be a real inspiration. One concrete result of the increased spirituality was the decision of Ralph Wagner, one of the young men of the congregation, to study for the ministry. Rev. Froehlich left Gordon after three years of service, and is now serving the government at Washington as an editor in the Agricultural Department.

Rev. G. W. Styer took charge of St. Paul's pastorate June 1, 1913. During his pastorate of four years the annex now used as the Primary Department and Adult Bible Class Department, was added to the church and a new heating plant was installed. Rev. Styer resigned June 3, 1917 to accept a call to Ohio.

Rev. G. W. Millar succeeded Rev. Styer. Under Rev. Millar's leadership and guidance the building debt incurred during the previous pastorate was liquidated, an electric fan blower was installed for the pipe organ replacing the old method of hand pumping, which supplied its power since installation. In addition both church and parsonage were improved by the

installation of the electric lighting system. Rev. Millar's services in Gordon lasted for four years when he was called to a charge at Annville, Pa.

The present pastor of St. Paul's, Rev. A. C. Harris, was elected in Feb. 1922. Since his duties as pastor have begun at Gordon, improvements both material and spiritual have been accomplished. Among them are the assuming of a Home Mission, St. John's at Westville, N. J.; the decision of Adam Bingaman to dedicate his life to the ministry and, who is now pastor of a Lutheran congregation at Montgomery, Pa.; the organization of a Sunday School orchestra, and a Junior Choir; Daily Vacation Bible School; the vesting of both minister and choir; and finally the building of a new parsonage on the property of the late Wm. Wilson.

The Methodist Church

The first preaching in the interest of Methodism in Gordon, was in the year 1857, by Rev. John A. DeMoyer, who was stationed at Ashland. He took an interest in holding services in Gordon. At that time Ashland was a part of the Catawissa Circuit of the Baltimore Annual Conference.

In the year 1858, Rev. Samuel W. Sears, then stationed at Ashland, held a revival service which resulted in the conversion of a number of persons, also in the organization of a Methodist Society which met to worship in a schoolhouse near the edge of town.

The various ministers of Ashland, Girardville, and nearby places "supplied" the people of Gordon from time to time, among whom we name Revs. Kester, Stevens, Cathers, Rickerton, McKee, Mullen, McWilliams, Shields, Frigellis and Drake.

In the year 1860, a union church was erected and deeded to the Presbyterians, but was finally purchased for a Methodist Church Dec. 2, 1872.

At this time the officials petitioned the Presiding Elder of the Phila. Conference, The Rev. Robert Patterson, for a preacher. In response to this request, Rev. Jas. T. Satchell was sent to the charge. He was succeeded by Rev. Josiah Bowden in the Conference of 1874. He remained only one year, and was succeeded by Rev. Jas. Sampson. It was during his pastorate that the church, being greatly in debt, was sold and purchased by the Lutheran denomination. The Methodists were again without a place to worship. After meeting in the school house for several years, the Mite Society met at the home of Mrs. Jacob Paul, Treas., in the Fall of 1879. W. O. Seitzinger, Secy. of the Society, made a motion, seconded by Amy Kauffman (later Mrs. C. A. Kleber) that they hold a Fair to raise money to build a church. The Fair was held, nearly \$1,000 was raised which was the start of the present M. E. Church.

At the session of the Central Pennsylvania Conference of 1878 application was made to have Gordon attached to the Helfenstein Circuit of the conference. This petition was granted, and Rev. Nathan B. Smith was appointed to the Helfenstein and Gordon Circuit.

In the year 1880, Rev. H. N. Minnich was appointed to the charge. It was during his pastorate that the present church was built and dedicated Jan. 8, 1882 by Bishop Simpson, and named the Simpson Methodist Episcopal Church, Gordon, in his honor. The cost of the present structure at that time was \$3400.

In the spring of 1883, the three year pastorate of Rev. H. N. Minnich having expired, he was succeeded by Rev. John A. Wood, Jr. At the Conference of 1884 the Circuit was divided and Gordon became a separate pastoral charge, or station, and Rev. Wood was returned to Gordon. It was during the year 1884 that the present parsonage was built at a cost of \$1800.

A list of the pastors who have served the Simpson Methodist Church since 1882 is as follows:

Rev. H. N. Minnich, Rev. J. A. Wood, Jr., Rev. J. A. Fisher, Rev. P. F. Eyer, Rev. J. F. Kerlin, Rev. H. M. Ash, Rev. A. Lawrence Miller, Rev. J. B. Mann, Rev. J. P. Benford, Rev. Geo. A. Duvall, Rev. J. Victor L. Wagner, Rev. W. H. Stevens, Rev. Edw. Jackson, Rev. G. W. McIlnay, Rev. Jas. A. Turner, Rev. John M. Stevens.

Catholic Church

The members of the Catholic Church attended St. Joseph's Church at Ashland, until June 1902, when they leased the Band Hall on Hobart Street and fitted it for services until a church could be built. The following summer the men who were idle because of a "strike" began hauling the native stone from the surrounding hills, and digging the foundation. The contract for building was given to Daniel Haas, who died before its completion, and it was completed by his son, R. L. Haas.

The corner stone was laid in 1905. It was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies and named "Lady of Good Counsel," on Oct. 21, 1906.

It remained a Mission, served by pastors from St. Joseph's Ashland, beginning with Father Hugh McGettigan, who served until 1913. He was succeeded by Father Daniel McGinley who served it until it was made a parish, June 1922. Father

John V. Brogan was appointed pastor. During his pastorate a rectory was built. The occasion of the 25th anniversary of the dedication of the church in 1931 showed a repaired and renovated building, the interior walls having been finished with imitation travertone rock.

Father Brogan was succeeded by Father Cornelius Burke, Sept. 1933, under whose leadership and guidance much good work is being accomplished.

Since the inception of Our Lady of Good Counsel, five parishioners have dedicated their lives to the work of the church. Noteworthy is the record of the family of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Campbell, four of whose children are now engaged in church work. Raymond and Vincent are serving parishes in Phila., while Leah and Catherine are teaching in church schools. Elizabeth Sullivan recently entered upon the same kind of duties and is now located at a church school in West Chester, Pa.

Gordon Public School

The following history of the Gordon Schools was written by W. O. Seitzinger, a member of the Board of Education of Gordon for over 42 years.

The first school house was built at the east end of Gordon, where the home of C. Y. Hoffman now stands and was named the Rattling Run School. The land for the building was donated by Andrew Wilson, who lived on the farm just east of the building. He was a brother of R. C. Wilson, one of the first school directors of Butler Township, serving as director from 1847 to 1875. There is one person, A. P. Thompson still living in Gordon who attended school in this one room building. With the building of the planes and the growth of population a large building had to be erected, and in

1858 or 1860, a two room building was built on the lot where Daniel Rissmiller now lives. Here is where W. O. Seitzinger started school in 1866. Then as the town kept growing, it was decided to build a larger building where the two room building stood. This school, a four room structure, was built in 1874. In the winter of 1889, this building burned to the ground and in 1890 the present building was erected on the opposite side of the street. In the spring of 1891, Gordon became a borough and W. O. Seitzinger was elected school director in February, 1891, and has served in that capacity ever since. Miss Carpenter, Miss Shay (sister of the late Judge A. L. Shay), Mr. Gould and Mr. Frank taught in the old two-room building.

Some of the first teachers who served in the four room building built in 1874, were a Miss Margaret Smith (aunt of one of the present teachers, Miss Tillie Smith), Mrs. Mary Conway and Harry Fisher (retired Reading Railway Official).

In the six room building erected in 1891, N. M. Frank was the first principal and teacher in the higher grades. Among the other teachers were a Mrs. Harkins, at present a business woman in Mahanoy Plane; a Miss Mary Brady, who was replaced by Miss Bertha Hubler in September 1883, and was retired from the teaching profession in June, 1933. Miss Hubler first taught in grades 4 to 7, for 8 years, and in grades 7 and 8, for 42 years. At the beginning of her teaching career she received a salary of \$25 a month. Quoting from Miss Hubler: "We built our own fires and swept and dusted our rooms three times a week. Pupils were absent quite often. Disciplining was different from that of today. Pupils were in-different because of the sameness of their work. After a course of study

was adopted and new subjects added to the curriculum, together with the compulsory attendance law, more progress was made. Teaching was more interesting, pupils enjoyed their work better, and truancy was a thing of the past. Modern methods changed the environment of the school. Teaching is not an easy task. It has its ups and downs. After you know your pupils, work is easier. I can truthfully say I enjoyed my 50 years of teaching, and am still interested in our schools in Gordon." Another teacher in this building was Miss Katie Sullivan, who was replaced by Miss Tillie Smith in 1896. Miss Smith is still a member of the faculty of the Gordon schools, this year teaching grades 7 and 8, which position was made vacant by the retirement of Miss Hubler. Still another teacher in the building was Mrs. Mary Conway, who began teaching in 1880, and is also a member of the present faculty, teaching grades 2 and 3. Mrs. Conway states that at one time she had a primary school of 102 pupils. For a number of years there were but five rooms of this new building used, but with the increase of population another grade was added and Miss Lilly Rasbridge, who died recently in Wilkes-Barre, became the new teacher. She was replaced by Miss Gertrude Rice in 1899, who taught grade 1 for one year, grades 3 and 4, for 32 years, and at present is teaching grades 6 and 7. Among the other first teachers were Miss Maude Wagner, who is now living in Reading; W. E. Wagner, at present a prominent business man of town; Mrs. Chas. Winterstein, nee Miss Irene Johnson; Mrs. Alfred Neff, nee Miss Cora Paul; Mrs. George Lynch, nee Miss Beatrice Seitzinger, and Miss Mary Yost. Miss Margaret Price and Miss Edith Williams, both of Ashland,

taught in the primary grades of Gordon for a short time. Both are now teaching in the grades at Ashland.

The first class to be graduated from Gordon High School was in the year 1892. It consisted of the following members: Fred Rice, at present practicing medicine in Sunbury, Pa.; Burt Reick, formerly a lawyer of the Schuylkill County Bar and now deceased; Annie Frank, wife of A. L. Kaufman of town, and Maud Hoffman, formerly a nurse, but now deceased.

The principals who have served the Gordon Public School were: N. M. Frank who taught until 1915. R. L. Seltzer, who taught from 1917 to 1919. W. C. Esbenshade served only a few months and R. L. Seltzer again took charge of the schools on his return from the World War. H. M. Weber taught one year, 1919 to 1920. E. W. Martindale served four months of the term 1920, his unexpired term was completed by R. S. Santee, who taught until 1927. The present principal is C. F. Derr.

Gordon High School is rated as a fourth class High School, and until 1928 consisted of one teacher, the Principal. At that time because of crowded conditions and the ever changing school codes, another teacher had to be added and also another room. This new room is used by grades 7 and 8, and the room previously used by these grades forms part of the High School. Since that time the High School curriculum has been greatly changed; two years of Latin having been introduced and a second year of Algebra taking the place of Plane Geometry. The course offered in Gordon High is purely Academic. Pupils desiring to complete their course are compelled to attend neighboring schools.

Civic Organizations

Washington Camp No. 62, Patriotic Sons of America was organized in Gordon in the autumn of 1869. The first meeting place was on the second floor of the house now owned and occupied by Harvey Kimmel. Meetings were held here a few years. When J. F. Lewis built an addition to his home, they moved their possessions and held their meetings there for a number of years. Later they met in a vacant room of the school house for a few years. In 1887, a few members thinking they ought to build, bought a lot and erected the present P. O. S. of A. Hall in 1888. The membership of the order at the present date is 138.

In the year 1927, Dr. Bronson of Gordon, with the assistance of Mr. Griffith of Tamaqua, took charge of the Boy Scout movement in Gordon by the appointment of a committee to sponsor a troop with C. A. Constantine to act as Scoutmaster. Prior to this, H. L. Neff had been Scoutmaster of a troop in Gordon. At a public meeting in the P. O. S. of A. Hall to form a troop, at which officers of the Anthracite Council of the Boy Scouts of Hazleton were present, a troop was organized. Harry Seitzinger, Lawrence Trommetter and Arthur Harris, being Boy Scouts of Ashland were transferred to Gordon. The boys range in age from 12 to 18 years, there being 55 Scouts in all. They were all registered as tenderfoot Scouts in Dec., 1927, in what was known as Troop 101, of Gordon. The boys were soon uniformed and drilled in the work of scouting and made very good progress.

On Aug. 1, 1928, the troop had its first camping experience at Hoover's Island, near Selinsgrove, Pa.,

where 40 boys camped for two weeks.

The troop camped at that place for three consecutive years, and in 1930 there were 48 boys present. In 1931, the Schuylkill County Council of Boys Scouts was organized and the Gordon troop was assigned to this council. The troop was given a new membership number and was known as Troop 43 of Gordon. Mr. Watson was elected as chief Scout Executive, with an office in Frackville. A Boy Scout Camp was selected in the Blue Mountains near Summit Station, about 30 miles from Gordon. The Gordon troop camped there in the summer of 1931 and 1932. The Gordon boys excelled in swimming, diving and carpentry and came home with several prizes.

At present Troop 43 has registered 39 Scouts as follows: 2 Eagle Scouts; 14 First Class Scouts; 12 Second Class Scouts, and 11 Tenderfoot Scouts, also two patrols from Trevorton of 12 Scouts, making them a full troop of 51 Scouts. A Sea Scout Ship of 10 boys has also been organized.

The Boy Scouts organization at present is under the leadership of C. A. Constantine, Scoutmaster; Ralph Allvord, Ass't; Lawrence Trommetter, Jr., Ass't.; and Glen Seitzinger, Official Patrol Leader.

In November 1928, through the influence of Dr. A. F. Bronson, Miss Edna Reese, of Wilkes-Barre, met in the Methodist Church with a group of people who were interested in the Girl Scout movement. After the objectives of Girl Scouting were discussed, an organization was formed with Mrs. Edna Coward as Captain, Mrs. Leon Portner, as First Lieutenant, and Miss Tillie Smith, Miss Gertrude Rice, Mrs. Robert Martz, Mrs. Harry Gear-

hart, and Mrs. Daniel Bolich as members of the Girl Scout Council.

Girls were invited to become members and six patrols were formed consisting of two patrols for girls under twelve years of age, making a total membership of 64 girls.

Meetings were held in back room of the Fire Company Hall for about two years. Then they were given another room in the same building for their use only, which has been furnished to suit their purposes.

Shortly after its organization the girls produced a play entitled "How St. John Came to Benson School," the proceeds being used for the purchase of uniforms. Thirty-seven uniforms were secured, including one for the Captain and one for the Lieutenant. The following year another entertainment was given by the girls in the form of an operetta entitled "Mother Goose." The proceeds of this production were used to help defray the expenses of the 17 girls who camped at Camp Onawandaha, Wilkes-Barre, in the summer of 1929.

One of the greatest tasks of the Girl Scouts was the clearing away of brush and weeds from the unkept graves of the Citizen's Cemetery. This was done for three consecutive years during the week preceding Memorial Day. In addition to this constructive work, the girls aided the poor of the town by distributing baskets of food and clothing. They also entertained the poor children at a Christmas party at which each child received a toy and candy.

In the summer of 1930 27 Scouts spent two weeks camping at Green's, and in 1931, 43 girls camped at Beury's. Both camps are located a short distance from Taylorsville.

In the autumn of 1931, Mrs. Coward resigned as Captain, and Miss Marian Pounder was named in her place. Money was raised by the girls through suppers, bazaars, and festivals for their camping trip at the Y. W. C. A. Camp Chickagami, located between Pinegrove and Cressona, Pa.

Miss Pounder's leadership of the Girl Scouts lasted only one year. At present Miss Elizabeth Hubler, one of the first members of the Girl Scouts of Gordon, is Captain. She is ably assisted by Miss Rose Frank and Miss Betty Hass.

The organization now consists of 3 patrols and has an active membership of 33 girls.

Fire Companies

The first Fire Company of Gordon was organized in 1890, with W. O. Seitzinger as President. Meetings were held in the school house, but the organization lasted only about four months.

The next company was organized in 1893. All records of this company have been lost, but it is believed that W. L. Phillips was the Secretary. At this time, the borough council decided to build a Fire Company Hall, and in 1895 the present building on the corner of Biddle and Hobart Streets was erected. This company also disbanded and the town was again without fire protection.

About 1911 another company was organized. The Board of Directors of this company were W. E. Wagner, Wm. Dampman, N. J. Phillips, and C. C. Reddy. This company purchased a Chemical Engine at Bethlehem, but the organization was disbanded in 1920.

On April 16, 1924, W. H. Maurer and G. H. Duncan were instrumental in organizing the present Citizens Fire Company of Gordon, the following officers being elected: Pres.,

E. B. Brocious; Vice Pres., R. B. Smith; Rec. Sec., J. F. Sullivan; Fin. Sec., A. A. Zerby; Treas., M. M. Kahn; Trustees, J. F. Dreher, Thos. Richards, R. S. Santee.

In 1927, the company purchased a 400 gallon pumping Fire Truck carrying a Booster Pump Tank with a capacity of 250 gallons of water, at a cost of \$4,200, which was paid in full within three years. At this time also an electric fire siren was installed on the Hose Company building at a cost of \$350. The company petitioned the borough council for fire plugs and were granted nine new ones. Through this company the capacity of the borough reservoir was increased to insure sufficient water for the borough and for fire protection.

Auxiliary of Trainmen

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, was organized on April 22, 1919, in the P. O. S. of A. Hall, with 46 charter members. Mrs. Ada Marshall of Philadelphia, First Grand Vice President, was the organizer, assisted by Mrs. Emma V. Lewis, of Gordon. The Sunbury drill team put on the work in a very fine manner, with Mrs. Emma Webber as captain. A public installation was held when all officers were installed by the First Grand Vice President. The officers were as follows: John F. Lewis (of 532) as Councilor; Mrs. Della Wurst, Past President; Mrs. Emma Lewis, President; Mrs. Clara Berger, Vice President; Mrs. Emma Maurer, Secretary; Mrs. Esther Maurer, Treasurer; Mrs. Anna Facer, Conductor; Mrs. Anna Lynch, Warden; Mrs. Lizzie Sell, Chaplain; Mrs. Louisa Zerby, Inner Guard; Mrs. Elizabeth Farnum, Outer Guard. Visiting members from Philadelphia, Reading, Sunbury, Harrisburg, Wil-

liamsport, Newberry, Shamokin, Tamaqua and Pottsville were present. At present there are 86 members. Since its organization there have been 12 deaths. The organization pays a beneficiary of \$500 total disability or death claim. The lodge is in a flourishing condition.

Census Facts

In 1880, Gordon contained the repair shops and round house of the railroad company, two hotels, one owned by Gables and the other by Tye, a school building, two general stores, owned by D. D. Phillips, and C. F. Kaufman, one church edifice, the Union Church, several grocery stores, and 870 inhabitants. In that year, also, a small monthly paper, called "The Ivy Leaf" was established by the Rev. H. N. Minnich, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The editorial and mechanical work was all done by himself, and the profit derived from it was used for the benefit of the church.

In 1930, Gordon contained the repair shops and round house of the railroad company, three hotels, one school building, three churches, nine grocery stores, one millinery shop, one meat market, one radio store, one hardware store, two ice cream parlors, two garages, two barber shops one lumber dealer and contractor, one doctor, one druggist, one dairyman, one coal and ice dealer, and a post office.

Population, 1069; Native Born, 1063; Foreign Born, 6; Born in U. S. outside of Pennsylvania, 7; Number over 80 years of age, 6; Number of Radios in town, 156; Oldest man in town, T. C. McAndrew; Oldest Woman in town, Mrs. Solomon Maurer; Civil War Veterans, 2; Spanish War Veterans, 1; World War Veterans, 30; Widows of Civil War Veterans, 3.

Reminiscences of East Norwegian Twp.

(From "Pottsville Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* March 26-29, 1931)

The history of East Norwegian Township was compiled by C. C. McCullough and N. S. Sterner, who wish to express their sincere gratitude to the following persons, without whose help this account could not have been written: Mrs. Anna McCullough, Maurice Joyce, Thos. J. Fayhey, Miss Ellen Colahan, Rev. F. H. Ravnika, Rev. L. M. Fetterolf, Mrs. Mary Wentz and Mrs. Margaret Haverty.

They also gathered further information from the following records: Report of the Superintendent of Instruction, 1877; History of Schuylkill County, W. W. Munsell Co., New York; Cyclopedia of Schuylkill County, S. F. Wiley, Rush, West and Co., Phila. and the History of Schuylkill County, Vol. 1, Schalck and Henning.

In the early nineteenth century, travelers journeying west through Pennsylvania, followed the "River to River" highway. This road was so called because it carried traffic between the Delaware and Susquehanna Rivers. The "River to River" highway ran through Schuylkill County. The County receives its name from a stream which was discovered by Dutch explorers. These pioneers passed the river's mouth without observing it, and for that reason called it "Schuylkill", Dutch for "Hidden Stream". In early times the county was divided into seven large townships. One of these, traversed by the "River to River" road, was Norwegian Township, originally a vast extent of land including the area now covered by the City of Pottsville, that occupied by the borough of St. Clair, that of Port Carbon and many others which later became independent of the parent township. Part of Norwegian and part of Schuylkill Townships were united to form a new district, called East Norwegian. Later, the southern section of the new Township was incorporated as the borough of

Port Carbon, and the northwestern corner was included in the formation of St. Clair, leaving East Norwegian Township within its present confines.

Let us travel this "River to River" road together, in fancy. Having come west some hundred miles from the Delaware River, we find ourselves in a village of miners' homes, and being weary of the journey, we decide to rest. This is the Village of Coaquenac, populated by miners and a few farmers, who came from England, Ireland and Wales, about 1829.

Coaquenac was the early name of the northern village in East Norwegian Township. There was another village close by called Mill Creek. The latter grew up about a grist mill, located in the northern part of the township. This mill was operated by water power, and traces of the millrace can still be fairly discerned, just west of the highway from Port Carbon to Saint Clair, and opposite the Reading

Railway Co. Car Repair Shops. The grist mill operated until about 1860.

The people of this neighborhood and of all the villages in the township sent their children to the only accessible school. That was a schoolhouse built in 1829 by Abraham Pott, a resident of the village of Port Carbon. Mr. Pott was an early champion of education. He built the school at his own expense, prior to the acceptance of the common schools, and was effectively instrumental in planting the new system of common school education in the region, expending his money and voice in its behalf.

The miners whom we visit in retrospect walk daily to work at various mines. Many men and boys were employed at Crow Hollow Shaft, sunk by Silverman and Evans, in the year 1831. This was the original major coal mining industry in the township. Nine years later, the firm of Milnes, Haywood and Snyder opened a shaft on the Mill Creek. Mr. Snyder, of this company, launched a mining project in the northeastern corner of the township in 1864. His mine was in full operation two years later. Just about that time (1863) the Crow Hollow Shaft operation passed into the hands of Kirk and Baum, who shipped 400 tons of coal per day. The machinery for Snyder's mine was manufactured in the owner's shop in Pottsville. Snyder's colliery, the new Crow Hollow colliery, and Mr. Price's mine at Raven's Dale, about a mile southeast of Snyder's, and opened at the same time, were operated by steam, but the smaller operations relied upon horse power. As late as 1864, Mr. Joblin used horses and windlasses to hoist coal at Feder

Dam, located just north of the center of the township.

Much of the coal from these operations was shipped on the Mill Creek Railroad, in small wooden cars, drawn by horses, and running on wooden rails. The Mill Creek Railroad was laid from Port Carbon to Saint Clair in 1829.

Sunday Observances

We imagined our party to arrive in Coaquenac about the year 1830. When Sunday arrives, we have slight choice of places to worship. The Catholics must take the stage coach (running from Mahanoy City on questionable schedule) to go to Mass in Pottsville. Still, we must consider ourselves fortunate for the improvements of two decades, for until 1827, Mass was celebrated only by itinerant Jesuit Missionaries, visiting the vicinity on horseback every two or three weeks. The first Protestant church, called the Union Church, was situated on the top of Lawton's Hill. This was a log structure of three rooms: one for devotional services, one to be used as a schoolroom, and the other room was occupied by the janitor. While this church was in service it stood wholly within Norwegian Township. Then, at the time of the most recent political divisions, the line dividing East Norwegian Township and Norwegian Township was drawn through its crumbled foundations.

All Protestant sects worshipped at the Union Church, described above, until 1811; but in later years, a Baptist Church was erected in Belmont, a village in the extreme east of East Norwegian Township. Belmont was a village of only about 40 families, yet it supported the church. However, there was no resident pastor. A minister, Mr.

Markins, of Saint Clair, preached in Belmont on Sundays. This church was burned in 1861. We will see later that Belmont had yet another Baptist Church. There were but four Catholic families in Belmont.

While resting from our journey on the "River to River" road, let us roam leisurely about the tranquil villages of this township before returning to the turmoil of 20th century progress. As we walk, early on Monday morning, down the road connecting Saint Clair and Port Carbon, and termed Port Carbon Ave., we meet many women carrying buckets. These buckets are filled with water from the mill-well, a water hole located near the grist mill. This water is to be used for the Monday morning washing. Having seen wells in all the gardens, we inquire why this trip is made to the mill-well, especially when there are so many chores to be done about the houses with the meagre conveniences of the 19th century. We are apprised that the water in the individual wells is "hard" and unsuitable for laundering, whereas the mill-well contains "soft" water which will readily dissolve soap, and render the washing less laborious. This well was in every day use until 1834.

A Common Oven

Farther down the turnpike we come upon an animated gathering of housewives, grouped about what appears to be a mound of earth, covered by a shed. Curious to know the cause of this gathering, we approach the structure, and find it to be a huge bake oven. We come closer, see one woman with a long iron hook dragging out large, globose, nut-brown loaves of bread,

and passing them to her daughter, who carries them into the house and burnishes their tempting crusts with melted butter. This oven is located west of Port Carbon Ave., just north of the stream from Snyder's mine. Seeing no fence enclosing the oven, we inquire to whom it belongs, and are told that the oven is owned in common by all the families of the village. A man, standing close by, hears our queries, and notices our interested scrutiny. He accosts us, introducing himself, and asks would we like him to explain these structures. Of course we are eager to hear.

The ovens, he points out, are built of stone, mortar and brick. The bases are constructed of large, dressed stone, bound together by lime mortar. On top of this is erected a temporary form of wood, or sand, covered with boards. A barrel may be used for a small oven, but care must be taken to add some kind of removable material to each side of the barrel, near the top, so that the finished structure will not be semi-circular, and in section, inside. On either side, behind and on top of this form, bricks are laid. A chimney is built at the back. More elaborate ovens have an additional chimney at the front. A small opening is left at the front of the pile, to permit access to the interior. After the mortar sets, the sand is withdrawn and the wooden form burned out. This debris is cleared away, leaving a well-sealed grotto, with plumb walls and a dome-shaped roof. (If the cylindrical contour were continued down to the floor, the outer rows of loaves would be burned because of their juxtaposition with the hot ceiling.)

On the night before baking day, certain select woods are placed in the oven, and these are ignited on the following morning. When the fuel is burned, the ashes are raked out with a wooden hoe. Wood is used for the protection of the masonry. If the oven is at the proper temperature, the loaves are placed into it. "How," we inquire, "can it be told whether the oven is at the proper temperature?"

We have been walking slowly down the road, as our guide explains this quaint custom, and now we arrive at another of these common ovens. This one is also west of the turnpike, and about a quarter mile south of the former one.

"Watch what this woman does, and you will see," he replies.

The woman just finishes cleaning out the ashes as we arrive. Then she extends her arm, bare to the elbow, into the heated chamber, and as she oscillates her hand rapidly, counts to 15. She quickly withdraws her hand, and nods an affirmation to several girls about her. They slide the smooth, white loaves—24 of them—into the cavity, push the first ones back with a poker, close the iron doors, sealing them with bits of grass, place another piece of iron over the chimney, and wait the exact interval, learned only by long observation, until the loaves are baked.

On further inquiry, we learn that the women have a traditional agreement whereby the one who fills the oven with fuel at night has priority over others for use of the oven on the next day. So she can safely "set" her bread at night without fear of delaying baking it the following day. If two women want to bake on the same day, they will mutually decide on the previous evening which one shall

bake first. Then the other will defer her "stiffening" (kneading) so as to be ready to place her bread into the oven shortly after the other baking is removed. Only a short interim is required to restore the heat of the oven between bakings, because the walls are already hot.

These common ovens were used until about 1870, but long before that time, some people began building their private ovens. Two skilled masons, Edwin Sterner, of Port Carbon, and William Brennan, of Spencerville, built many of these structures.

Visit To Spencerville

We continue on our walk southward along Port Carbon Ave. for another half mile. Here we turn west, cross the Mill Creek Railroad, then the Mill Creek, and visit the little village of Spencerville. Spencerville was named for its founder. We are struck by a certain characteristic of the people of this community, which we had already noticed to be true of the people in the other villages of East Norwegian Township. That is their neatness and personal cleanliness. This was to be exemplified in later years by a certain Mr. McCormick, who lived close to Spencerville. Mr. McCormick was superintendent of loading cars in Palo Alto Railroad yards in 1872. It was a dusty, dirty job, nevertheless, Mr. McCormick always came home from work in the evening as clean as the man who spent his 10 hours in a swivel chair. Mr. McCormick did not stand alone in this quality; he was typical of the people throughout the township.

After an interesting day of observing, interrogating and admiring, we return to the miner's house in Coaquenac, where we have been offered all hospitality for the dura-

tion of our visit. We enjoy a supper of home-grown vegetables, pork of the family's own butchering and curing, home-churned butter, gigantic loaves of bread, whose baking we have already witnessed, and, invariably, steaming hot tea—for you must remember that this is a community of Irish, English and Welsh.

After supper the men congregate on the logs in front of their gardens. Every house, whether it had a porch or not, had before it a massive timber, and on these timbers the men gathered at evening to smoke their clay pipes and discuss the items of the day. We take up our places upon the log where the largest number of men have assembled. Various incidents are discussed, maybe something that was learned from the stage coach driver the last time he passed through. If our visit happens to be in late fall, we will doubtlessly hear mention of the "beef-ho" man. Naturally we ask who that might be, and are apprised that each fall, a beef merchant comes through the community. His mammoth wagon and many strong horses, together with his familiar cry of "Beef-ho!" are a veritable harbinger of winter. From him the people buy their beef in great quantities—quarters and halves. They raise and butcher their own hogs.

But whatever the varied subjects of the early evening, as twilight fades into dusk, and the star-studded mantle of night falls noiselessly over the peaceful village, the colloquy must inevitably turn to the preternatural. Tales of terrifying deeds, both recent and ancient, are exchanged. Names are mentioned, and places pointed out. In all probability, the spot upon which

the story-teller sits has been the scene of spine-quivering events. The sophisticated newcomer, incredulous at first, begins to hear the uncanny cry of fairies in the plaintive chirup of spring-peepers. The tobacco smoke, curling lazily upward, shapes itself into the terrifying scenes described by the smoker. Many a furtive glance is cast to either side and backward. A timely croak of a nearby frog would now send the quasi-sophisticated catapulting upward faster than any fairy is accredited with having traveled. But, strange to say, while these early immigrants believed profoundly in the preternatural, they had no terror of encountering the spectres they described, but rather regarded them with a mixture of awe and resignation.

They told their stories with an inimitable art and transmitted their credulity from parent to child until about a decade before the close of the century. To the present day there are landmarks in Mill Creek identified inseparably with blood-chilling scenes and acts.

Upon the entreaty of our kindly hosts, we spend a second night in Coaquenac; and, excepting a few fitful dreams of grim ghosts and melancholy banshees, sleep peacefully in the quiet vale of toil.

A View of Belmont

We plan to leave the following day, so whatever reconnoitering we wish to do, we must attend to in the morning, for the stage will arrive in early afternoon. Before leaving we wish to see the little village of Belmont. Belmont is in the eastern end of the Township, and having no other means of transportation we start forth afoot. After walking about 20 minutes, we take a road that skirts the vil-

lage to Port Carbon. We have been climbing a gentle rise of ground for a mile or so, and now come to its sharp descent. We stop to look about. Behind us and on either side are dense forests of birch, beech, hemlock and a medley of tangle underbrush. Below, we survey the village of our destination.

We count about forty low, white, double houses. Somewhat separated, and at one side is the Baptist Church, mentioned above. We take the path leading from our feet down into the midst of the community. Little children play about the flowery gardens, while their mothers carry water from the only source in the village—a central spring. The men have already gone to work at Bear Ridge coal mine, nearby, and to other more distant mines, while the larger boys and girls are in school. Belmont had the first school in the Township.

We are surprised to see a large number of colored men white-washing the homes. A venerable lady, dipping candles, in her immaculate kitchen, tells us that these Negroes are sent every year by the coal companies who own the houses. (The houses were thus cared for until 1833).

We sit for a while in this rural home, watching the toil-worn hands dexterously dip cotton wicks into melted tallow and lay them upon a board to dry. These candles are the only means of illumination there, or anywhere else in the Township. Kerosene was not used until about 1865, and then not universally. Though we enjoyed the cheerful grandmother's yarns and lively ditties we must soon be on our way, for it is nearing mid-day, and we must board the stage shortly, for our westward trip.

We return to Coaquenac in time for lunch, and then prepare for leaving. We are loathe to depart from this quaint settlement which has afforded us so much restful entertainment. In early afternoon the westbound stage arrives at Barber's tavern. Barber's tavern is located on the "River to River" Road, immediately east of the Port Carbon Avenue intersection. It is a large, plain building, destined to last in good repair for yet more than a century. While the stage changes horses, and the drivers slake their thirst at Barber's, we bid a reluctant farewell to our new-found friends; and rattle forth after a pleasant digression on our westward journey. The stage rolls over the Mill Creek Railroad, crosses the Mill creek and ascends the hill beyond. We cast a last glance back at the whitewashed houses, serenely basking under the waning sun, before the coach gathers speed on the hill down into Pottsville, whence it proceeds over the Bull's Head, through Minersville and on its way to the Susquehanna.

Immigrants From British Isles

But changes came in order, and with growing momentum to East Norwegian Township. Immigrants come in increasing numbers from the British Isles, mainly from Ireland. In 1847, among many Irishmen, came Peter Gillespie, from the County Donegal. He grubbed and prepared for cultivation the virgin land owned by Dr. Brown, the beloved physician of the Township and eminent throughout the county. Dr. Brown's and Patrick Horan's farms comprised the largest cultivated tract in the Township. The latter of these men, in the course of a few

years, amassed a vast amount of property, including, at one time, the lot in New York City upon which the Pennsylvania Railroad Station now stands. Dr. Brown practiced his profession and tilled his acres until his declining years when the fields passed partly into the possession of Dr. Gray and Jacob Schoen.

Schoentown Founded

On his newly acquired land, Jacob Schoen founded a settlement which to this day bears his name. Schoentown lies but partly within the Township. This village and the more recent established village of Graytown, on Dr. Gray's land, form one large community. Schoentown and Graytown were both populated by central Europeans who began migrating to America at the very close of the nineteenth century. This influx from Europe was augmented by Polish and Slavish families from the northern sections of Schuylkill County. A large plot of ground in the center of this community, was donated by Dr. Brown to the Presbyterian Church of Port Carbon. It still serves as a cemetery, with, however, but few interments.

But we must return to the varied activities of the nineteenth century. In 1849 came the gold rush. Local men helped swell the hopeful crowds. Two Davises of Belmont rode Conestoga wagons across the western prairies. Edward Gillespie traveled to Sacramento. Many others, whose descendents still reside in scattered villages of the Township, turned their faces toward the setting sun, in 1849.

In 1860 the stage coach service was discontinued, leaving the people along its route with no means of travel save by foot. It was a

common thing, then, to meet people on their way to Mahanoy City, a distance of some 15 miles. Besides the few—the very few—people who owned carriages, everybody walked to Pottsville, their shopping center, for the next 34 years.

Nursery Established

In the same year as the passing of the stage service, Mr. Joyce, the pioneer scientific florist, established his nursery in East Norwegian Township, at the summit of the hill between Spencerville and Pottsville. This was the first nursery for cut flowers in eastern Pennsylvania. Like a flower of its own cultivation, this institution has grown from a small greenhouse at first, through the industry and honesty of its owners, to its present vast proportions.

The second half of the nineteenth century brought much more activity than the first fifty years. European immigrants came in numbers. To accommodate the increasing arrivals, a barracks, located north of the Mill Creek grist mill, was made to serve as a temporary residence for many families until permanent abodes could be provided. The barracks was a large building sheltering several families at once, even as late as 1863, when it was razed. It was always styled the "barracks." Whether it ever housed soldiers, no one remembers now.

Many small mining operations had sprung up, worked a short time and closed. Barty's slope, on the west watershed of the hill between Pottsville and Mill Creek, and close to the site of the growing railroad yards, closed in 1860. McGinnis' Colliery, on the same hill, but a few hundred yards farther north, closed in the same year.

Quota For Civil War

Then came the Civil War, drawing its quota of men from the Township. Among the volunteers from Belmont were Thomas Colahan, Matthew Maley and Edward Colahan. William Higgins accompanied two Foyle boys and their neighbor, Bowe, from the local village of Raven's Dale, to the war. Thomas Welch, Martin Dooley, Martin Hamberry, Edward Haley, seven McDonald brothers and Thomas Edwards, all of Mill Creek and Coaquenac, with many others responded loyally to the call of Lincoln.

The local recruiting officer was Deputy Provost Marshall Uriah Gane, who lived on the corner of Coal and Pike Streets in Port Carbon. Uriah Gane operated a brick yard in the northern portion of the Township during the war and after the war until 1877. A row of houses called Mill Creek Manor now stands on the site of Gane's brick yard. There were other brick yards in the Township, but none as large as Ganes. They all produced a soft type brick.

During the Civil War Company No. 6 of the 19th regiment, 12th Infantry, Pennsylvania Volunteer Soldiers, was encamped on Lawton's Hill, on a large, flat area of ground, adjacent to Joyce's flower nursery. This was a summer camp of foot-soldiers. At the same time, a company of Union Cavalry from New Jersey, was encamped in Agriculture Park. This park is a large, generally level clearing, on the hill between Lawton's Hill and East Norwegian Street in Pottsville. There were many splendid equestrians in that camp. Many tales are told of a certain horseman from that camp riding with his comrades to Leonard's Tavern,

the "East Norwegian House." Leonard's was one of the most outstanding taverns in the Township. It was situated on Port Carbon Avenue, about midway between Saint Clair and Port Carbon. The house stood as a landmark until about five years ago. After Leonard left, it sheltered the Gillespie family for about fifty years, until it was razed. This soldier, of whom we spoke, would grow restless of the inaction in the tavern, mount his steed and ride at a mad gallop up and down the turnpike, sitting boldly in his saddle and clapping his hands before and behind his body, to the admiration of the children and the scandal of the grown-ups.

The few years of the Civil War were busy ones for East Norwegian Township. Mr. Holmes, the father of Major Holmes, drove a drift into the hill in northern Mill Creek. This drift was opened in 1861, in quest of coal. The venture proved unsuccessful and was abandoned in less than a year. Traces of the mine can still be seen in the Edward's garden in Mill Creek.

Shipped Coal To Philadelphia

The coal supplied by the local collieries was shipped to Philadelphia for use in the rolling mills near that city. These mills bought East Norwegian Township coal until 1878. Much of this was carried on canal barges, but railroad transportation was growing rapidly in favor. The wooden rails had long since been replaced by steel, and the traffic became so heavy that it was deemed necessary to enlarge the railroad yards through Mill Creek. In 1863 the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, having acquired the Mill Creek Railroad System, decided to change the course of the Mill creek.

This creek, it will be remembered, used to flow west of the tracks. An executive of the Philadelphia and Reading Company, Franklin B. Gowen, affected the change of the creek. The new channel was dug by plows and horse-shovels. When the creek was turned into its new bed it flowed on the east side of the tracks. Then a trestle had to be erected over the new creek to accommodate the coal shipment from Snyder's and Crow Hollow mines. This was done in 1863. Mr. Fayhey, with other masons, cut, dressed, and set the stones used in the buttresses which held the steel span. The steel girders were cushioned on leaden plates. While this bridge was under construction, the little boys playing about the creek were told to watch the lead plates and report to the boss any attempt at theft. There are men living about the Township at the time of this writing who remember having acted in this detecting capacity. While the collieries have changed ownership many times and the Railroad yards have expanded greatly, the old bridge is still in almost daily use.

Coal mining had been identified with the lives of the inhabitants and the progress of the Township from the very beginning of the coal industry. But in 1864, Messrs. Lannigan and McGuire of Pottsville, after perusing geological reports of the Pottsville gap, drove a tunnel into a hill across Port Carbon Avenue from the grist mill in Mill Creek in search of iron ore. The tunnel was driven for many yards, but the traces of ore were not rich enough to warrant further investment of money. The entrance to this mine, locally known to this day simply as "the iron ore" can still be seen in the bank on the east side of the highway, and about four

hundred yards north of the Crow Hollow Railroad crossing. The writer recalls, not many years ago, having been many times frightened by weird noises emanating from this cavern at night. He recalls, also, having played similar practical jokes, in later years, upon others, less familiar with the legendarily enchanted cave.

Barber's Tavern State Coach Station

Barber's Tavern, the stately old stage coach station for many years, witnessed the end of the stage route in 1860, and three years later became the property of Mrs. Dyer. Mrs. Dyer kept this saloon until 1871, when it passed into the hands of Mr. Baskervilt. The new proprietor sold it to John Siney in 1876, and it became known as "King George's Tavern", with a large painting of King George adorning the front wall.

In 1872 Snyder's mine was purchased by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. Then it was called Pine Forest Colliery, which name it bears to the present day. When the new company acquired the colliery, the village of Pine Forest contained fifty tenement houses. These were owned by the Coal Company, and the average monthly rental was three hundred dollars. Pine Forest Colliery soon became a large employer in the Township. The shipments grew yearly until 1880 when six thousand tons of coal were produced every month.

We have seen that much of the coal produced in East Norwegian Township was shipped southward by rail, but a goodly portion of it was transported by water from Port Carbon. Heavy wagons hauled the coal from the various mines to the dock in Port Carbon, where it was loaded into the canal barges. In order to keep the canal navigable during draught, a reservoir was

built in the northern end of Port Carbon.

Reservoir Supplied by Creek

This reservoir was supplied by the Mill creek. Here the stream was cleared of all debris before being allowed to enter the canal. A large mound of earth can still be seen between the road and the creek just where both enter Port Carbon Borough. This is refuse from the canal water supply.

Mr. Temple was one of the chief haulers during the time of the canal. He maintained large stables in Spencerville, where he housed his teams. These buildings were landmarks until the discontinuance of the canal in 1886. Shortly after that the stables were removed to make room for dwelling houses.

After the Civil War, the population of the Township began to fall. In 1870 there were nine hundred eighty-three souls. In 1880 there were seven hundred, and in the next decade this fell to five hundred eighty-six.

As the country settled down to peace once more, mining became more concentrated in the few major operations. The small companies gradually dissolved. Feder Dam mine was abandoned in 1875. The next year Raven's Dale mines were closed, and in 1880, Thompson's mine and Silcox's mine were shut down permanently. Both these last named mines were located near Dr. Brown's farm. In 1894 Chamberlain colliery was erected on the site of Barty's Slope. Chamberlain worked until 1898.

We have seen that the last pint of ale served to a stage coach passenger was tapped in Barber's tavern in 1860. Then we traced the history of the tavern to 1876, when it became the property of John Siney. During Siney's proprietorship other taverns grew into prominence in the Township. We will

translate ourselves into the past to travel this road once more. Leaving Siney's we walk north on Port Carbon Avenue, pass the "iron ore" and come first to Clark's tavern. This is known as "The Bee-Hive." A large representation of a bee-hive hangs in front of Clark's door. Clark occupied the house which later became the home of the Krammeses. After the "Bee-Hive" we arrive at Hagan's tavern where a large green and gold billboard, bearing a harp and Gaelic caption, greets us. Hagan's tavern is known as the "Erin Go Bragh House." Morleys are the present occupants of the "Erin Go Bragh House."

Next we come to Milward's tavern. The most comical trade mark of all confronts us here. In front of Milward's is a large sign, showing a venerable canine laboriously crossing a fence. Under the picture we read, "Help the Poor Dog Over the Stile." Milward's tavern became the home of Sterner's later, and to this day is occupied by their descendants.

These old taverns all closed before 1880. Only one—Siney's—survived to witness the advent of the trolley car. The first car came through the Township in 1894 and was greeted by the smiling face of King George, which cast its eyes benignly upon this new mode of travel for less than a year, until Siney's closed the tavern, and the building became, at last, a dwelling.

A Recreation Centre

During the last quarter of the nineteenth century the people of East Norwegian Township sought recreation in an improvised park on the west bank of the Mill creek, in a spot about midway between Spencerville and the south-

ern boundary of Saint Clair. Tucker's Dam, the veritable "Ole swimmin' Hole" of Mill Creek attracted the youngsters on pleasant evenings and Sunday afternoons, while the young ladies strolled with their "dandies" among the stately trees and fragrant laurels. Many a romance was born in Tucker's park, and many a grandfather today can sing with real significance, "Down by the Old Mill Stream." While the park was deserted in 1890, men who have not yet reached their thirtieth year recall with pleasure the fun they had in Tucker's dam.

Until 1885 there was no Pennsylvania Railroad connection between Pottsville and Frackville. In that year, a tunnel was driven through the hill which casts its evening shadows over Mill Creek. The eastern end of this tunnel opens into East Norwegian Township right beside the ancient River to River Road. Through this cut a track was laid for freight and passenger trains from Pottsville to Saint Clair, thence to Frackville and points beyond.

Atlantic Garden Popular

Long before the park at Tucker's Dam began to wane, a new recreational centre began to grow in favor with local society. This was the "Atlantic Garden" in the extreme northern portion of the Township. Here Martin Dormer operated a distillery until 1880 and Brewery in conjunction with his park until 1904. Many picnics were held on this lofty playground, and young and old danced upon the open platform to the fiddler's lively music so popular in those days. In 1904 these airy times gave place to the august Gregorian chant of Mill Creek's first Catho-

lic Church, whose development we shall note later.

The twentieth century begins—indeed a century of progress for East Norwegian Township. From the time that the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company acquired the Mill Creek Railroad, the line had expanded from two northbound and two southbound tracks to about fourteen tracks in all. From the early locomotives, pulling twenty-"four-and-one-half-ton" cars, modern engines were developed, capable of drawing fifty, sixty, and seventy-ton loaded cars, in trains a quarter of a mile in length.

Move Repair Shops To Mill Creek

Then, in 1910, the railroad executives decided to remove their repair and storage facilities to Mill Creek. Prior to this time the locomotive roundhouse and car-repair shops had been in Palo Alto. These buildings were abandoned and larger ones erected in Mill Creek. Tucker's Dam was filled in to afford a solid footing for the roundhouse. The trees of Tucker's park were hewn down and the bushes cleared away to make room for the three-story office building and the oil house. At the southern end of the yards near Spencerville was erected the air plant where air is compressed and supplied to the pneumatic equipment of modern trains. The car repair shops, two capacious buildings, stand at the northern end of the yards. Other buildings include the power house, where electricity is generated; and the coal docks, which supply coal to the tenders of engines. All these large buildings, together with many minor structures, incidental to railroad operation, were erected of brick and concrete. While

these buildings stand in East Norwegian Township, they are commonly known as the Saint Clair railroad yards.

Traffic grew so heavy on the railroad through Mill Creek that it was deemed unsafe to continue the trolley car tracks across the railroad at Spencerville. So, for the few years' duration of this line, about 1898-1900, passengers on the trolley line from Pottsville to Mill Creek via Spencerville were obliged to leave the car at the railroad and walk across the tracks to Port Carbon Avenue, where they could board a car running between Port Carbon and Saint Clair.

Railroad Erected Bridge

Railroad traffic increased each year until 1910, when the railroad company erected a steel bridge high above their tracks to carry traffic from Port Carbon Ave. to Spencerville. About half-way up the inclined approach to this bridge a concrete arch spans the Mill Creek. A boss on the north face of this arch bears the date of construction.

As in the 19th century the 20th witnessed new mining ventures launched only to survive a short time and close. Pine Forest mines, which had been shut down before the World War, opened again, and worked quite profitably. A modern breaker was built, and the most improved equipments were installed. In 1925, however, this industry again became dormant. The last operation at Pine Forest was the "washing in" of the coal banks in the year 1927. In 1920, the post-war demand for coal afforded an opportunity to sell the ancient banks piled on the site of Feder Dam mines. These were loaded into cars by cat-gallows and shipped

away, thus restoring that part of the surface of Mill Creek to its original level.

Two Churches In Township

In recent years, East Norwegian Township boasted two churches. One of these was located in Belmont. Like its predecessor, it also was of the Baptist denomination. No pastor resided at this church; a minister came from a nearby town to conduct Saturday and Sunday services. The second Baptist Church of Belmont was razed in 1917. A frame dwelling house now stands upon the church's foundation.

The other church came into being in 1904 when Mrs. Mary Dormer sold to Bishop Ryan, on May 8th, of that year, the old Atlantic Garden. The dance hall was remodeled, and became St. Mary's Slovak Church. The first mass was celebrated July 22, 1904.

This improvised church was used only while the brick edifice was being constructed. The new building was dedicated on Thanksgiving Day, November 27, 1918. It is supported by a large Slovak congregation.

Rev. John Stanek, a professor in Europe, was the first pastor of St. Mary's Church. After him came, in order, Rev. Dondalek, Rev. Paul Hermann, Rev. Francis Strnad, Rev. John Pospek, Rev. Klouchic, Rev. Kucharek, Rev. Felix Labuda, and Rev. F. H. Ravnikar, who is the rector at present.

Growth Of Schools

Some idea of the growth of population in the township may be gained from considering its schools. The first school was Mr. Pott's private institution. Then came a school in Spencerville, built by Mr. Baker, about 1829. Next, a school

was established in Belmont, and later, the population of a corner of the township called Mt. Hope, warranted the building of a schoolhouse at that place. The school in Coaquenac brought the total to four schoolhouses within the township as it is bounded today. In 1880 the appropriation for operation of these schools was \$2,200.

A long continuity of teachers is listed in the records of each of these schools. Probably the first teacher in Belmont was Mr. Butler. Among those following Mr. Butler were Mr. Conley, Mr. Burns, Mr. Wall and his son, Lawrence, who later was ordained a Catholic priest. Others were Mr. Moody, Miss Moody, Mr. Flannery and then son. These teachers all taught in the original school, a stone building, located a little way apart from the houses of Belmont and on the highway to Port Carbon.

The old Belmont schoolhouse was converted into a dwelling house in 1893, and a larger building was erected in the village. The first teacher in the new school was Miss Fogarty, who was succeeded by Michael Morley. After him came several others, until recent years, when the succession became as follows: Miss Julia Devlin, Peter Buckley (who became a priest), Miss Mary Buckley, Miss Mary McCullough, Miss Margaret McDonald, John Papowich, C. C. McCullough, and finally Miss Anna Stancavage. Miss Stancavage was the teacher when the school was destroyed by fire in December, 1933.

The teachers of Spencersville, now known as "Lower Mill Creek," include the following: Mr. Fogarty, Mr. McGettigan (both of whom became priests), Mr. Whitehouse, Frank Cavanaugh, Thomas O'Don-

nell, Miss Eagan, Miss Brennan, John Rattigan, Miss Hettie Fogarty, J. A. Horan, Miss Mary McCullough, Miss Mary Mealey, and at present, Mr. Kennedy, Miss Monahan and Miss Buckley.

Mt. Hope teachers were: Eugene O'Callahan, Miss Brennan, Miss Deegan, Mr. Crawshaw, J. A. Horan and others. Mt. Hope school closed because of the decreasing population in 1896.

Some teachers in Coaquenac were: Eugene O'Callahan, Miss Emma Harris, Miss Mary Dormer, Miss Mary Degan, Patrick Fogarty, Miss Ella Cleary, Miss Molly Burke, Jas. Moran, Wm. Moran, Miss Julia Burke, Wm. J. Conley, Geo. Watkins, Mr. Brown, Jos. Whitehouse, Peter Gillespie, J. A. Horan, and at present, Misses Catherine Hoke and Elsie Symons.

In 1915, it was found that the existing schoolhouse could not accommodate the increasing number of children in the district, so Graytown was selected as the most strategic location for a new school. A one-room school was built there in 1915. N. S. Sterner, M. F. Whalen, Miss Kennedy and Miss Hablett taught in that school at various times until 1922, when a modern four-room building took the place of the old one-room building. Many of the teachers named above taught in the new building, and at the present the faculty consists of Miss Catherine E. Morley, Miss Madeline DeLozier, C. C. McCullough, Anthony J. Kahler, N. S. Sterner, an itinerant teacher, completes the list of permanent faculty. The Board of Education is composed of John McDonald, president; W. E. Donaldson, secretary, and the following members: John McDonald, Edwin Sterner and Edward Rowe.

In 1919, J. A. Horan was elevated to the office of Supervising Principal in the Township, and through his untiring efforts the school system developed to its present high rating—with eleven teachers, and a substitute, Miss Dolores Donaldson, who is equipped to ably fill the place of any faculty member.

Among the twentieth century developments in East Norwegian Twp. is an amusement park located on Route No. 309, between Belmont and Port Carbon. This park, first known as Schuylkill Park, was opened in 1921, by the East Penn Traction Co. Each summer since its opening, large crowds enjoyed swimming, dancing and picnicking there. A few years ago, the name of this playground was changed to "White City Park."

Changes Have Come to Pass

If, like the Wandering Jew of literature, we, who have visited East Norwegian Township in 1829, should return to the same scene today, we might well become bewildered at the evolution that has transpired in little over a century. We would look in vain for the River-to-River road. We would find Port Carbon Avenue to have become the artery of traffic to Pottsville, and no longer known as Port Carbon Avenue, but dubbed the Mill Creek Road.

Where Uriah Gane's brick yard stood we would see the well-kept row of twenty-six houses which is Mill Creek Manor, built in 1929. We might climb the hill opposite Mill Creek Manor and find ourselves in an entirely new—and very large community known as Diener's Hill, named for one of its original settlers. On Diener's Hill there are eighty houses. A village as large as this requires some fire hazard protection, so the enterprising village fathers organized the "Independent Hose Company", for protective and social purposes, in August, 1915. A char-

ter was granted to this company, Oct. 25th of the same year. Forty persons comprised the original membership and they elected Walter Smith as their President, Robert Barnes as their recording secretary, Michael Morley as financial secretary and Edwin Sterner as treasurer. James Wentz, Walter Sterner and Archibald Russell were the first trustees. Since its formation the company has lost in personnel, but gained in apparatus. At present the membership is twenty-eight. The company is up-to-the-minute in all respects and owns four hundred feet of hose.

Truly, this is a changed East Norwegian Township. We remember having visited Belmont more than a century ago. Let us go back again to see whether the years have wrought as much change there as elsewhere. We start for Belmont via Mill Creek Road, but this time we need not walk. We may ride comfortably to our destination in a modern motor coach. These buses were put into service by the East Penn Traction Company in October, 1932, the date on which the trolley service was discontinued through the Township. The buses have operated since then on an hour schedule, with additional intermittent buses during the rush hours.

On our way to Belmont let us first look at the other villages of East Norwegian Township. Spencerville now contains some forty houses. This community is now known as Lower Mill Creek, with the main thoroughfare, Mill Creek Avenue.

Crossing the hill from Lower Mill Creek, we discover that the joint community of Schoentown and Graytown has expanded like the other villages of the Township. Now there are one hundred houses there with stores, barber shop, billiard rooms, dance hall and public school.

We come, at last, to the old village of Belmont. Here, perhaps we can find the most traces of early Township life. The population of Belmont has fallen from forty families to about fifteen. Many of the old, white-washed homes have given place to new houses, but a few of the early dwellings are yet standing. During the years that have elapsed since our former visit to Belmont, the children of most of the early settlers have left that place, but there are two or three families who occupy the houses where their grandparents lived before them. Miss Ellen Colahan, a niece of the Civil War soldier, owns a home in Belmont. Miss Colahan, until recently, was journalist for a newspaper in Pittsburgh, where she lived much of her life. Now she occupies her time by painting beautiful landscapes in oil. Miss Colahan's work reaches many distant cities and evokes words of praise from artists and laymen alike.

While, as we have learned from these pages, East Norwegian Twp. has passed through a veritable metamorphosis, socially, industrially and, to some degree, intellectually, it has yet lost none of its charm. Its various villages are still desirable places in which to live. They are close to the markets of Pottsville, without having to endure the distractions of the city. Frequent bus service, daily mail service and the most modern conveniences of electricity attract the home-builder to

these pleasant, uncramped sites. The streets are electrically lighted at night, and telephones are found in a large percentage of the homes. Baseball and football, in season, amuse the crowds on the local fields.

All summer long, from sunrise until dark, the six tennis courts are animated with the smiling, sun-tanned faces of lovely ladies and lively lads. These courts are so favorably located as to be readily accessible by all residents of the Township. Diener's Hill has its local court, while the young net-men of the Belmont Tennis Club disport themselves on their own court. Mr. Brown's court accommodates the young-bloods of Schoentown and Graytown, while the athletes of Lower Mill Creek eagerly await the opening of Buckleys'. In the village of Mill Creek, itself, Immekepples' court is the scene of many active matches. Immekepples' court is on their own land, just at the intersection of Mill Creek Road and the ancient River-to-River highway. Finally, on a lofty eminence of ground in McCullough's garden is a tennis court which knows no rest from early spring until mid-autumn. No summer day is too hot, nor is any winter day too cold for the dauntless sports of Mill Creek. We are sure that it was sheer exhaustion alone that terminated the tennis season on McCullough's court on Hallowe'en, Oct. 30th of last year. Yes, they are sportsmen in Mill Creek.

Germans Earliest Settlers in E. Brunswick

(From "Pottsville Republican"—"Morning Paper," March 30-April 3, 1934)

Brunswick Township was one of the original nine townships of Schuylkill County. The early history of East Brunswick, organized in 1834, is interwoven with the history of the entire original township of Brunswick. Into this region came the earliest settlers of the County. It is, therefore, of interest to know from where they came, who they were and where they settled. The information of the early settlers is furnished by Clifford Hartman, Millersburg, Pa.

Into William Penn's colony came persons of all religious faiths from all countries of Europe, but it is the Germans with whom we are mostly interested in the early history of Brunswick Township. Because of religious persecution many Germans from the Palatinate, or Lower Rhine country, came to the New World. After landing at Philadelphia or New York, most of them pushed out into the wilderness and settled the valleys of the Schuylkill and Lehigh Rivers. They were of different religious beliefs—Mennonites, Tunkers, Schwenkfelders, Moravians, Lutherans and Reformeds. Most of those that settled in Berks and later in Schuylkill County were members of the last two denominations. The Lutherans and the Reformeds began to arrive in large numbers about 1725. Rev. Henry Muhlenberg was the great leader of the Lutherans, and Rev. Michael Schlatter organized the Reformed Church in Pennsyl-

vania. Into the region of Brunswick Township migrated across the Blue Mountains from Albany, Berks County, the early settlers of this part of Schuylkill County. Others came from the Tulpehocken region, near Reading, and, passing through the gap at Port Clinton, settled in the vicinity of Orwigsburg. Still others came across the Blue Mountain at Kepners. Among the first settlers whose descendants are still living in this part of the country are the Yosts, Heisers, Bensingers, Koenigs, Bacherts, Kochs, and Seltzers. Many of the settlers on the south side of the Blue Mountains landed at New York and pushed north and west into the wilderness till they reached the Susquehanna, then floated down this river or followed its course 'til they came to the mouth of the Swatara Creek. Then they followed that valley eastward to the Tulpehocken. Among their number was Conrad Weiser.

This description of a pioneer settler in the McKeansburg district fits all of them: He acquires a grant of several hundred acres of land from the State. He arrives there in a one-horse wagon or ox-cart, in which he carries all his earthly store. He sets to work felling trees; and building a log house, one story high with an attic. He clinks it with pebbles and mortar made of clay, and roofs it with bark and grass. He uses the clearing for farming. He girdles the trees so they die and let the

sun reach the planted corn. He builds a barn, a corn-crib and a pig sty. He constructs a turtle-back oven back of the house and a bench for the bee-hives. More land is cleared and a few fruit trees are planted. The forest and streams furnish him with meat fowl and fish. His kitchen serves as dining-room, parlor, and bedroom. The most cheerful spot on his whole domain is the open hearth, with its log fire.

The first settler to push north beyond the Blue Mountain and settle within the present limits of Schuylkill County, was George Orwig with his family in 1747. This bold emigrant from Germany pushed up through Reading and Port Clinton and settled at Sculp's Hill near the Red Church. More of the Orwigs will be given in the history of Orwigsburg. East Brunswick Township and the territory surrounding it were the first settled parts of Schuylkill County. The descendants of many of the first settlers are still living in this community.

Early Settlers

We have space for only a few of the early settlers of East Brunswick Township, for at the time of the formation of Schuylkill County in 1811, the McKeansburg district was one of the most populous sections of the County, and McKeansburg was a strong rival for the County seat. Thomas Reed, Daniel, Jacob and Frederick Bensinger, Ulrich Heiser, Daniel Schwebb, Daniel Koenig, Christopher Boyer, George Bachert, John Bolich, Abraham Seltzer, Christian Koch, Bernard Kepner, Andrew Benkes and Benjamin Lightfoot were among the first settlers—John Keneau and Phillip Schwartz built the first cabin on the south slope in the dis-

trict. Schwartz and his family built their cabin on the south slope of the ridge on the farm now owned by James Brown, better known as the Albert Bachert farm. Keneau came down the valley, crossed the Little Schuylkill and built his cabin on a farm now owned by Herbert Hill, better known as the Zimmerman farm. Frederick Bensinger settled in the Summer Valley and built his cabin one and a half miles east of New Ringgold, just across the hill from Phillip Schwartz. His two brothers, Daniel and Jacob lived with him for some time, but later moved west through the valley and built their cabin on the site where the old mill stands on the Nathan Kunkel estate. Jacob made this his permanent home, but Daniel soon moved northward into Schmaltzdale. We have no authentic dates for these men did not acquire grants from the State. They were squatter settlers, but we know that most or all of them came here before 1750. These were probably the first five settlers in this section. These men pushed across the Blue Mountains from what was Maxatawny Township, Berks County, over a trail near the Blue Mountain Road at Kepners.

Friedens Church Tract

On Sept. 14, 1751, Benjamin Lightfoot took up a grant of land from the State consisting of 175 acres, 69½ perches. This is the tract on part of which Friedens Church is built. Ulrich Heiser entered Kleckner's Valley and built a cabin about a mile east of Hecla Station. Daniel Schwebb followed the trail westward and settled as a neighbor of Daniel Bensinger in the fertile Schmaltzdale (Fat Valley). Daniel Koenig built a cabin close to the farm now owned by Frank Moyer, better known as the Billy Acker

farm. Christopher Boyer built his cabin at the foot of Little Mountain just north of McKeansburg. About the year 1758, George Bachert, John Bolich and Abraham Seltzer came; Mr. Bachert settled on what is still called the old Bachert homestead, now owned by F. S. Bachert; Mr. Bolich located on what is now the Charles Nester farm; and Mr. Seltzer, on what is now the David Bauscher farm.

Bernard Kepner built a tavern near the forks of the road about 300 yards west of Friedens Church, on the farm now owned by Manden Faust. Andrew Bankes built his cabin on the site of the farm now owned by Claude Hill, better known as the Jacob Hine farm. The first brick house in the township was built by Daniel Kershner, about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile north of Drehersville. The bricks were made from clay along the creek on his farm. The house is now owned by the Walborn girls.

McKeansburg

The original owners of the land in and around McKeansburg were Daniel Webb, John Pifer, Jacob Ben-singer, Jacob Whetstone and others. Daniel Webb received a patent from the State in 1750 for 369 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land. This was sold to Peter Orwig in 1790, and in 1791 Orwig sold it to Balzer Bock for \$4,250.00. In 1754, John Pifer was given a grant to land west of the Webb tract, and in 1769 a grant to the north of the Webb tract was given to Jacob Ben-singer. The eastern part of the town is located on land granted to Jacob Whetstone in 1767. Additional building lots were laid out from 1803 to 1809 on lands of Christian Holler and Christian Kamp.

The town was named in honor of Thos. McKean, Governor of Pennsylvania from 1799 to 1808. The first house was built on the site of the McKeansburg Hotel in 1803. The second house was built on the site

of the Reed's store across the corner. The third was the building now used as the Lodge Hall. On March 18, 1811, Governor Simon Snyder approved the Act creating the new County of Schuylkill. The Legislature enactment which created the county provided that until a court-house was erected, the Courts should be held at the house of Abraham Reiffsnnyder in Brunswick Township. Accordingly, on the first Monday in December, 1811, Judge Robert Porter of the third judicial district, which then comprised the counties of Wayne, Schuylkill, Berks and Northampton, assisted by Associate Justices George Rausch and Daniel Yost, set the judicial affairs of the new county in operation. The house of Abraham Reiffsnnyder stood on the site of the Drovers' Hotel in McKeansburg, now owned by Chas. Moyer.

Lumbering

Lumbering was the chief industry for many years. The trees were cut down and the logs were hauled on rude wagons in the summer and on sleds in winter to Hecla, New Ringgold, Bachert's Mill, Drehersville and other points on the Little Schuylkill. To these places dealers from Philadelphia and other places would come and examine the logs. The parties would then go to the hotel at McKeansburg, where terms would be agreed upon over a "glass of refreshments." When the spring freshets came, professional loggers were sent by the buyers, who would pilot the logs down the streams. After sawmills were built in this section, much of the lumber was sawed into boards and shingles and taken on large wagons drawn by four or six mules to the market, often as far as Philadelphia and Baltimore. McKeansburg maintained a leading position among the towns of the county until lumbering ceased to be the main industry.

Minerals

On top of the Blue Mountain at a point known as Sand Head is found a kind of sand almost pure white, which could be used in the manufacture of glass and for building purposes and foundry use.

William Kershner was the first to market this product, hauling it from the mountain to the railroad by mule-team. Later on a track was laid down the mountain slope, and the loaded car was lowered by means of a rope wound on a large cylinder. The empty car was hoisted back by windlass.

Later, the Drehersville Sand Company, with Messrs. Weldy, Frye and Ludwig, was incorporated and sand was marketed on a more extensive scale. A three-rail track was laid for three-fourths of a mile and the loaded car going down grade pulled up the empty car. The speed and safety was controlled by a large cylinder and lever.

A fire destroyed the machinery of the plant about forty years ago and it was never replaced.

Limestone

On the tract formerly owned by Wesley Seltzer, two miles east of Orwigsburg, limestone was quarried and converted into lime of superior quality. This same vein, following the trend of the geological formation, runs eastward through the farm of Spies Brothers one mile northwest of Drehersville, and also through the farm of Daniel Griesemer, one mile northeast of Drehersville.

Three miles farther to the north another vein was discovered, the stone quarried and converted into lime of superior strength. This vein extends from the East Brunswick Township School Building eastward to Rene Mont and beyond.

Limestone was quarried on the farms formerly owned and operated by William Seltzer, John Teter, Peter Marberger, Henry Bummer, Moses Bachert and James Brown.

One of these quarries extends from Luther Moyer's farm half a mile west of New Ringgold to George Seltzer's place half a mile east of McKeansburg.

These kilns were operated on this tract. This quarry is about three-quarters of a mile in extent.

The second one of these quarries, located on Moses Bachert's farm and on James Brown's farm near Rene Mont, shows that it was extensively worked. Two kilns were in operation at this quarry.

Railroad

The Little Schuylkill Railroad from Port Clinton to Tamaqua, a distance of 20 miles, more than one-third of its length through East Brunswick Township, was completed in the autumn of 1831, and its opening was made the occasion of a grand jubilee at Tamaqua on Nov. 18th of that year. The road was constructed with wooden rails and a piece of strap iron spiked to the top to prevent wear by friction of the car-wheels. The cars were drawn by horses and the coal was brought to Port Clinton, where it was loaded on canal boats.

Mills And Forges

The former industrial activities of Brunswick Township are evidenced by the sites and remains of dams which furnished water power for numerous rolling mills, forges and powder mills.

The first grist mill in the Township was built on the Little Schuylkill at the site of Bachert's Mill. Later two other mills were erected.

In 1812 Daniel Focht and Daniel Graeff built a forge near the site

of Nester's garage in New Ringgold. This forge, although the first built, was the last one standing in this section. In 1867 Francis Hughes, Gideon Bast and Abraham Focht built a forge near the Reading water tank at New Ringgold for the manufacture of blooms directly from ore. Later this forge was converted into a mill for producing steel.

In 1820 Mayer and Frego built a charcoal forge on the Little Schuylkill and called it Susannah Forge, in honor of Mr. Bayer's wife. Susannah Forge was located at Rausch's on the property now owned by Milton Moyer. In 1839 the forge was sold to Klein, Jones and Co., who later sold it to Daniel Bartlett, and Bartlett converted it into a rolling mill. In 1845 George Busch bought the establishment, but five years later a flood swept away the dam, forge and several houses, and the business was never resumed. Other forges along the Schuylkill were swept away, and Henry Freed, a skilled workman, was drowned.

The manufacture of iron by using refined charcoal for fuel and shaping the product with a hammer driven by water power became quite an important industry in the township. Jones and Klein built a furnace at Hecla and Lewis Audenreid built one on the Cold Run in 1830.

The ore and pig iron used in these furnaces was obtained mostly from the Lehigh district and was brought to the furnace on wagons drawn by mules. Some of the ore from that district was taken as far west as Pittsburgh on mule-drawn wagon teams.

Half a mile east of Dreherstown, near railroad bridge No. 6, on the

P. & R. Railway, a powder mill was operated on the estate formerly owned by William Kerchner and at present owned by Paul Freymeyer. This mill blew up, killing Mr. Longyear, an employe. It was never rebuilt. At about the same time Mr. Wolf and Mr. Reiter were killed in a similar manner nearby. Brunswick Township had three tanneries in operation until a few years ago, where leather of a superior quality was manufactured. One was located at Pinedale another at McKeansburg and a third at New Ringgold.

Education

For many years the settlements were scattered, and the time of the settlers was occupied in clearing the land, and providing shelter, food and clothing. Any instruction that the children received from books was given by the parents; but as soon as enough children could be collected, a log-school house was erected and a teacher employed; this building also served as a church. The school teacher often served as pastor, conducted services, performed marriages, baptised children and buried the dead.

Rev. W. A. Weller in his history of the Friedens Church by the Little Schuylkill published in 1898 gives the following account of the earliest school in the Brunswick Community:

"The early settlers were mostly German Palatines and they were anxious to provide for the education of their children in the fundamentals of the Christian religion. Thus they erected the first school-house on Benjamin Lightfoot's tract in 1755. It was built of logs, had a ground floor, an open fireplace, a roof made of clap-boards hewn from logs. The seats were made of slabs placed on blocks. This school was conducted almost a hundred years before the adoption of the public school system in

the little Schuylkill community. The school was largely under the management of the Lutheran Church, but children of parents of other denominations could also attend by paying tuition to the school-master. The schoolhouse also served as a place of worship, and on certain Sundays the school-master would read the Bible and perhaps some printed sermon. This little log schoolhouse by the Little Schuylkill used to occupy the present site of Frieden's Church near New Ringgold."

In 1768, according to an old record, Jacob Wetstein was asked "to take up more land for the enlargement of the Evangelical Lutheran school and church land."

The next school in this vicinity was opened at Dreherstown about 1800. The instruction was in German and consisted of reading from the Bible, writing, spelling, and simple reckoning.

In 1813 Balzar Bock donated the first church and school land at McKeansburg, provided that the instruction be in English. The money to erect the building was raised by subscription, 105 names appearing on the list and the amount subscribed was \$321.25. The five trustees elected were: Daniel Yost, Balzar Bock, B Kepner, Jacob Huntzinger and Daniel Bock. The first English school teacher was John Silvers. This caused considerable ill feeling on the part of those who sent their children to the Friedens German school, who referred to the fosterers of the new movement as "De Hochmediche Shtettler" (the proud town people), and they, in turn, referred to the advocates of the German schools as "De Dumma Busher iver de Schuylkill" (the ignorant wood dwellers over the Schuylkill).

These early schools were pay schools. The tuition was usually seventy-five cents a month, for a

period of two or three months a year.

East Brunswick township was organized in 1834 from territory embraced in Brunswick township. Since the township had quite efficient "pay schools," many of the people did not feel kindly toward the free school act passed by the State Legislature the same year in which the township was formed. The first effort in the township to adopt the free school system was made in 1837, by forming an independent school district out of a portion of the township and calling it McKeansburg District. The opponents carried the election by a large majority. It was not until 1843, when by a piece of strategy, thirty-six votes were cast in favor of free schools and only one vote against it. The prevailing idea was that the existing schools of the township, known as pay schools, were the "common schools," and that the new system which they called "free schools" was a different thing. The anti-school men being thus confused by these terms, "common" and "free," the advocates took advantage of their ignorance, by inveigling a well known citizen who was strongly opposed to the system into writing the tickets for the opposing voters, many of whom could not write. By writing the tickets "for common schools" he undesignedly secured, by only one dissenting vote, the introduction of the system which otherwise might have been delayed for a considerable time. It took a long time to appease the chagrined voters who learned by experience that "common schools" and "free schools" were, in the eyes of the law, one and the same thing.

The earliest minutes of the board of directors are those of a meeting

held Oct. 14, 1843. The board consisted of Daniel Bock, president; John F. Seltzer, secretary; Charles Foltz, John W. Kock, Isaac Moser and George Teter. At a subsequent meeting William Bock was elected treasurer, and eighteen poor children were accepted to be taught free. A tax of one hundred and forty dollars was levied. At a meeting of the board held December 16, 1843, the following teachers were assigned: Daniel Focht, Jr., to McKeansburg school at nineteen dollars a month; Valentine Huy, to Friedens Church School, at fifteen dollars; and Edward Bensinger, to Steigerwalts, at thirteen dollars. The books adopted to be used were: Comley's Spelling Book, Emerson's Third and Fourth Reader, Testament and Bible, Emerson's First part of New American Arithmetic, second part of Pike's Arithmetic, Mitchell's Geography and Atlas, and Frost's History of the United States.

In November, 1845, Andrew Jones was employed to teach the McKeansburg school in the English languages at twenty-three dollars a month, and Joseph Bilger to teach the German language in the same place at twenty dollars a month. Alonson B. Lung was employed to teach the English language at the school near Henry Koch's at twenty-three dollars a month. The term was four months. Several independent school districts were formed in the township, beginning with 1849. The school code of 1911 abolished all these independent districts, and all the schools of the township, nine in number, became the East Brunswick Twp. School District.

Most of the buildings having become unfit for school purposes, an agitation was begun by citizens in 1925, to consolidate the schools. At

a number of public meetings and conferences with representatives of the State Department of Public Instruction and the County Superintendent's office, the proposition was carefully considered. The question was submitted to a vote of the citizens of the township, and at an election held November 8, 1926, the Board of Directors were authorized, by a vote of 143 to 60, to bond the township for twenty-seven thousand dollars to finance the building and equipping of a centrally located consolidated school building. During the summer of 1927, the consolidated school building at McKeansburg was erected at a cost of thirty thousand dollars. The members of the school board to whom much credit is due for the consummation of the consolidation project were: Wm. B. Seltzer, President; Howard Weaver, Vice Pres.; S. A. Moyer, Secy.; Earnest Grube, Treas., and Chas. D. Kimmel.

The present members of the school board are: Harvey V. Nester, President; Herbert W. Hill, Vice Pres.; Wm. B. Seltzer, Secy.; Chas. W. Grube, Treas.; Howard A. Weaver, and Henry A. Beck.

The report of County Superintendent Jesse Newlin for 1877 contains the following account:

In 1825, the counties of Berks and Schuylkill were represented in the state Senate by Hon. Wm. Audenreid of McKeansburg, Schuylkill County. Mr. Audenreid was the originator and first advocate of a specific fund for establishing a system of common schools for the state. Though not approved by those associated with him at the time, yet to him more than to any other single individual is due the credit for the suggestions and agitations that led to the establishment of the present school system.

Religion

The exact date when the Congregation of Friedens Church was organized is more a matter of conjecture than of fact. The records

seem to show that for a long time the people worshipped in the log school house standing near the site of Friedens Church. It is likely, as shown by fragments of records, that the church was organized as early as 1768, and perhaps as early as 1760. The old Communion vessels bear the inscription date of 1756. It was a union church, bearing the name Friedens (Peace). The Lutheran and Reformed worshipped in the building. The first church building was erected in 1798 by Andrew Etzler, who contracted to build the church for fifty pounds of good and lawful money. Henry Sassaman helped to build the church. It was dedicated in October, 1798. Pastor Daniel Schaeffer conducted the dedicatory service.

One of the first pastors for the Reformed Congregation was the Rev. Phillip Meyer. He served until 1829, when he was succeeded by the Rev. John Zulick.

Due to friction caused by conducting the English school at McKeansburg, the people of the latter place withdrew and built a union church at McKeansburg in 1828, on land donated by Balzer Bock. The four commissioners elected to supervise the erection of the church (or meeting house) were: Andrew Bock (son of Balzar Bock), Wm. Koch, Geo Medlar, and Lewis Audenried. In 1882, the present church replaced the original log structure which had served these congregations for more than fifty years.

Through the efforts of a former Pastor, Rev. James B. Musser, by bringing a landscape engineer into requisition, the beauty of the surroundings was greatly enhanced. A Cemetery Committee has since been appointed to care properly for the Cemetery. The members of this committee at present are Jonathan Horn, Harry Hartman, Benj. Kunkle,

Mrs. Amanda Matten, Mrs. Salem Nester and Miss Elva Bauscher.

A Parish Hall has been erected near the church, which affords excellent social and recreational facilities for the people of the community.

Pastor Zulick served the Congregation until his demise in 1875, when he was succeeded by Rev. Henry Leisse. Pastor Zulick's name is on the baptismal certificates of many of the present members of the church. He is remembered by many of the older people. He made trips from across the Blue Mountains on horse-back.

The Rev. Henry Leisse is well remembered by many of the older members many of whom he confirmed.

He was succeeded by Rev. Geo. Hartman, Rev. Jas. B. Musser, and the present Pastor Rev. Theodore Schneider.

After Pastor Schaeffer of the Lutheran Congregation at Friedens resigned, he was succeeded by Rev. Chas. G. Strein. Pastor Strein served until 1826, when Pastor C. Philip Muller accepted. During Pastor Muller's term some members withdrew from Friedens Church and united with the new Church (Christ's) at McKeansburg.

When Pastor Muller left, he was followed by Rev. Geo. F. Steahlin. He served until 1835 and was succeeded by Rev. Mark Harpel in 1837. Pastor Harpel served until 1841. In 1841 Rev. Dr. Geissenhainer accepted the call of Friedens and served until 1844. In 1845 came Rev. Nathan Yeager serving until 1852. From 1852 to 1854 Rev. Geo. W. Scheide served. In 1855, Pastor August Heilig became pastor, and he was succeeded by Rev. Theodore Rutter in 1860. In 1861 Rev. Wm. Hoppe was elected. He left in 1863, and Rev. Lampe served until 1866. Rev. Lampe was succeeded by Rev.

Jacob F. Wicklein, who in turn was succeeded by Rev. D. K. Knepper. On Rev. Knepper's accepting a call as pastor of the Slatington Congregation, he was followed by the Rev. I. N. S. Erb, who served from 1872 until his demise in 1888. The late Rev. H. A. Weller succeeded Rev. Erb and served the congregation about ten years. He was followed by Rev. Keller, Rev. Youse, Rev. Kramlich, Rev. Klick, and the present Pastor, Rev. Huegel.

Drehersville Churches

The Drehersville Evangelical Church was organized and built some sixty-five years ago. Chas. Miller, Samuel B. Medlar, Wm. Dreher, Benj. Mohl, and Wm. Becker were active members. Harrison Rarick and Nathan Rarick were the chief carpenters. The original church building was a stone building, built about a hundred years ago.

The Drehersville Congregational Church was organized and built in 1894. Extensive improvements have recently been made in the building.

The stone church building at Steigerwalt's (Church of God) was replaced with a more modern wooden building. Rev. Wm. Gangloff, the Pastor, has served as pastor of this congregation for thirty-six years.

Grange

McKeansburg Grange, No. 1256, P. of H. was organized in March, 1904. by State Deputy J. H. Dunkelberger, of Hegins. The first officers were: Frank J. Wagner, Master; C. H. Koch, Overseer; W. A. Jones, Lecturer; John Shoener, Secretary; and Henry Mimm, Treasurer. For thirty years this organization has been an influential factor in the moral and educational development of the district. Many of the leading citizens of the township owe much of their success to membership in the Grange.

The Grange picnics held annually in McKeansburg grove for many years were not only the greatest lo-

cal events but they attracted thousands of people from every part of the county. Speakers of State and National reputation spoke to the people; among them Masters of the State Grange Wm. F. Dill, W. T. Creasy, John A. McSparron, P. H. Dewey, J. A. Boak and E. B. Dorsett; and State Secretaries J. T. Ailman, Fred Breckman and J. H. Light. Among the county men who spoke at these gatherings were Judges C. N. Brumm and R. H. Koch, and Congressman G. Frank Brumm. High Priest of Demeter of the National Grange, C. M. Gardner, honored the people of the county with his presence at one of these annual affairs. For some years the picnics also assumed the nature of a fair with exhibits of farm implements and farm products. Former residents of the township made the McKeansburg Grange Picnic the day for their annual home coming.

Biographies

Henry Dreibelbies, who was born and reared on a farm one mile east of New Ringgold seventy-seven years ago, is an outstanding civic and church worker. Mr. Dreibelbies is managing a farm that is a model of neatness, good management, and up-to-date methods of farming. Along with his farm duties, he has followed the huckster business for thirty-two years. He has held various township offices, having been assessor sixteen years and tax collector nineteen years. This latter office he resigned recently on account of failing health. He served as secretary of the school board for twenty-eight years, as Superintendent of the Sunday School at Weaver's schoolhouse for six years, as deacon in Frieden's Reformed Church for six years and as Trustee of the same church for forty-two years. In 1920 he helped to organize the cemetery fund at Frieden's Church and is treasurer of the same.

Francis L. Marberger, who was born in East Brunswick Twp. and now approaches his seventy-third birthday, is a citizen of irreproachable character, an outstanding factor in every movement that works for the well-being of his fellow citizens and the community in general. Mr. Marberger was reared on a farm at Drehersville, attended the public schools there, and in 1879 was licensed by County Superintendent Jesse Newlin as a teacher. The first year he taught school at a salary of twenty dollars per month, when twenty-two days constituted a school month. After teaching three years on a provisional certificate he continued his studies at the Keystone State Normal School and graduated in 1884 as historian of his class. After graduation he taught eleven consecutive terms in Schuylkill Township. In 1895 Mr. Marberger opened a general store at Drehersville. In 1904 he erected a new store building, near the station, which he has occupied ever since. Mr. Marberger has been the Post-Master at Drehersville for the past twenty-five years and is one of the most obliging postmasters in lower Schuylkill County. Mr. Marberger is a member of Zion's Lutheran Church at Pine-dale. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Junior Order United American Mechanics.

Charles Marberger, a resident of New Ringgold, was born and reared in East Brunswick Township seventy-three years ago, worked on a farm until he was twenty-one years of age and then decided upon teaching as a profession. Superintendent Jesse Newlin licensed him to teach and he taught his first term in the Borough of New Ringgold, the late Paul Bock and David Vetter being school directors at the time. Mr. Marberger decided to qualify permanently for his life work, and so he entered the Normal School at

Kutztown, and graduated in 1884, as Valedictorian of his class. He taught the McKeansburg school, the New Ringgold school, and in the townships adjoining. Forty-three and one-half years of active service in the school-room constitutes his contribution to the cause of education. He retired from teaching eight years ago. Among his former pupils was the Rev. Calvin D. Yost, D. D., now in the Faculty at Ursinus College. He has an outstanding record as a civic and church worker. For half a century he served as Superintendent of the Sunday School at New Ringgold. As trustee, leader, and exhorter he bestows a most beneficent influence on the community. As a surveyor and justice of the peace he has forty years to his credit. Fraternally he is a member of Camp 100 P. O. S. of A., and also a member of East Brunswick I. O. O. F., and holds the office of secretary in both organizations.

Morris A. Hine was born at Drehersville, Pa., sixty-one years ago. He has lived there most of his time and in order to contribute his mite to the cause of education and humanity began teaching in 1891. He was licensed to teach by County Superintendent Geo. W. Weiss. The first year he received a salary of twenty-eight dollars per month for a six month term. After three years of teaching he graduated from the Normal School at Kutztown, in 1896. He has thirty-five years of service to his credit and taught at Nuremberg, Sheppton, Port Clinton, Quakake, Grier City, Bechtelsville, Highspire, Blandon and various township one-roomed schools. Many of his pupils have entered on careers of distinction and usefulness and it is his greatest pleasure to meet them. While he has never had a large bank account, the opportunity for meeting master minds as instructors and co-workers, of discovering the po-

tentialities in pupils and helping to shape their destinies and the opportunity to wage war on darkness and selfishness have fairly compensated for this lack.

John Shoener, one of the leaders in all Grange activities for the last 25 years, was born and reared in East Brunswick Township. He is a charter member of McKeansburg Grange and a Past State Deputy, in which position he served for 12 years, during which time he assisted in the organization of a number of granges in the State. He attended 16 State Grange meetings and two National meetings and is a seventh degree member, the highest degree of the Order. Mr. Shoener served 20 years as School Director, and was for some time Justice of the Peace of East Brunswick Township. At present he is serving as Tax Collector. He was one of the organizers of the McKeansburg Telephone Company and was its first president, and for 16 years, the secretary. For 9 years he has been a member of the State Board of Agriculture. During the time the State Department of Agriculture conducted Farmers' Institutes, Mr. Shoener was the Director for Schuylkill County. He assisted in the organization of the Farm Extension Service of the county and for a number of years was a director in the Extension Service and in the Potato Growers' Association. As a farmer he specializes in potatoes and apples.

Charles H. Koch is one of the Charter Members of the McKeansburg Grange, and has contributed to its varied activities for the past 30 years. He was one of the incorporators of the local telephone company and at present is a director of the corporation. Mr. Koch is one of the leading fruit and truck farmers of Schuylkill County.

David Baucher of McKeansburg has the proud record of serving as Justice of the Peace for 30 years and of being Sunday School Superintendent for 50 years.

John Mimm is one of the most progressive farmers in the township, always ready to abandon the old way of doing things when he is shown that the new way is better. Because of this policy he has become the leading general farmer in Southern Schuylkill. His specialty is potatoes.

The Kunkles have become so identified with the township that to mention East Brunswick, one invariably thinks of Kunkle. Fifty years ago Jonas Kunkle built the cold storage plant at Kunkle's dam for storing apples and vegetables. This was one of the first large storage plants in the county. Using irrigation, he produced garden truck and small fruits of a superior quality and a few weeks earlier than his neighbors. Mahanoy City, Tamqua, Schuylkill Valley, Port Carbon and Pottsville afforded ready market for all he could raise. The varied activities have been carried on by his sons after his death, and at present the farm is in charge of Mrs. N. J. Kunkle.

New Ringgold Borough

The village of New Ringgold dates its beginning to the erection of the public house by Charles Focht, and known as the "Half Way House", in 1840. In 1848 and 1849, Jacob H. Lutz, Philip Moyer, Charles Focht and Israel Stamm built houses. With the erection of the large stone hotel by George Dreiblebis, the "Half Way House" of Focht's was abandoned. The village was named in honor of Major Ringgold, the first officer to fall in the Mexican War.

On Sept. 24, 1877, the Court of Schuylkill County granted the degree for the incorporation of New Ringgold as a borough and appoint-

ed H. B. Koch to give notice of a special election to be held at the public house of Joseph Marburger, on Oct. 20, 1877, for the purpose of choosing officers to serve until the first Monday in April of the following year. The result of the election was as follows: Paul Bock, Chief Burgess; Joseph Marburger, John F. Reeser, B. F. Solliday, Daniel Becker, Jonas D. Fredericks and Henry Reed, Town Council; Daniel Leiser, W. H. Miller, Frank Weiss, Joel Marshall, Aaron Focht and Frank Moyer, school directors; H. B. Koch, Constable; J. Lynn, Judge of Elec-

tion; Benj. Yost, Inspector; and D. A. Foltz, Treasurer.

For some time Daniel and Abraham Long conducted a profitable tannery, but with the passing of the timber, it was abandoned. The furnace of the P. & R. C. & I. Company has also been abandoned.

Camp 100, P. O. S. A. was instituted, August 24, 1868, as a camp of the Patriotic Order Junior Sons of America. East Brunswick Lodge No. 802, I. O. O. F., was organized June 14, 1872. The borough has one union church. The population (1930) is 245.



Frackville Situated On Mountain Top

(From "Pottsville Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* April 4-10, 1934)

The students of the Frackville High School who collected the material for this history are: Mary Reese, Ruth Watkins, Joseph Nidjitskie, Albina Kerlavage, Ruth Ebert, Kathryn DePuka, Harold Bowe, Catherine Willison, Mahlon Warg, Robert Hoppes, Claire Caton, Stanley Zelesky, Allen Southall and Winfred Frew.

Special credit should be given to the work of Mary Reese, Ruth Watkins and Joseph Nidjitskie, who aided in the work of the organization of the material. The directress was Miss Marion E. Witter.

Frackville is situated on Broad Mountain, a plateau 1494 feet above sea level. It is unusual in its location, in that it is the only town in this district which is not undermined. Because of its high altitude, it has an extremely healthful climate. Both of these features have contributed to the growth of Frackville.

"Prior to and until the year 1850 the territory now occupied by the Borough of Frackville belonged to James C. Stephens, and was nothing but a 'howling wilderness.' The only building in this community at that time was a sawmill, which stood over the pond west of the arch on N. Lehigh Ave. Daniel Frack Sr., of St. Clair, having purchased 166 acres of the land, which a large portion of Frackville now occupies, converted this sawmill into a dwelling and hotel building. Into this building Mr. Frack moved from St. Clair in 1852, and here continued to live and conduct the hotel business from 1852 until 1861." The land owned by Mr. Frack was divided into town lots and was called "Frackville." In

1861 the Fracks were joined by Samuel Haupt, a contractor and builder of Pottsville, who built a home in the adjoining tract of land comprising 180 acres. Mr. Haupt first called his territory "Planeville" and later changed the name to "Mountain City."

Due to the rapid growth of the community it soon became desirable to organize it as a borough. The charter was granted April 10, 1876. The town and vicinity was then incorporated under the name of "Frackville." Council meetings were held on the first Thursday evening of each month. The first officers were: Chief Burgess, David P. Haupt; President of Town Council, Henry Parton; Secretary of Council, H. Weiderhold; Borough Solicitor, George D. Haughawout. Members of the Council were: Ambrose Boone, Robert McNealy, Henry Parton, H. C. Wagner, Reuben Wagner. Sept. 15, 1902, Frackville was divided into wards. The present councilmen are: North Ward, James Ferguson, Israel Gray, Henry Miller; Middle Ward, W. A. Wagner, James Harris, Elmer

Gradwell; South Ward, John T. Thomas, Evan Jones, Arthur James; Secretary, Blair Egge; Treasurer, Morris Heywood; President of Council, Arthur James; Chief Burgess, George W. Miller.

It is interesting to note the manner by which the borough finally received the name it now bears. The following anecdote was related by one of the early settlers in Frackville. "When the time came for the incorporation of the borough, there was much discussion as to its name. Mr. Frack desired it to be called 'Frackville,' and Mr. Haupt wished it to be called 'Planeville.' The discussion continued until the time when the town wished to have a post-office. The government refused to provide a post-office until a name had been given to the town. Consequently the decision had to be made. Mr. Frack and Mr. Haupt were in a tavern one evening and they decided to toss a coin to settle the question. Mr. Frack won and so the borough bears the name 'Frackville.' "

(The facts on history of Frackville were secured from Rev. Jonathan W. Miller and the anecdote was related by David P. Haupt.)

A very important event in the history of Frackville was Old Home Week, which was held during the month of Sept. 1914.

Old Home Week

A great number of people returned to visit their old home town during that week, which was a general gala occasion for all.

The profits gained in holding Old Home Week were turned over to the borough for the purchase of the Gamewell fire alarm system, which is the present system. The alarm for fires was first given from the Water Works, but later was transferred to the Hose House when the

borough installed a whistle on the Hose House for this purpose.

Another gala occasion for Frackville, although of only one day's duration, was July 4, 1929, when the First Schuylkill County American Legion Day was celebrated.

The Frackville Post No. 398 welcomed the American Legion Posts from the county. The features of the day were: The Scouts' and School Children's Parade in the morning; The Military and Civic Parade in the afternoon; The Mummies' Parade in the evening. After the parade in the evening there was an excellent display of fireworks. This day is counted as one of the most outstanding of its kind in the history of the town. The Chairman of the Committee in charge was E. H. Suender, and the Secretary-Treasurer was K. Thurman Kent. They were assisted by numerous committees.

PUBLIC HIGHWAYS

The Reading And Sunbury Pike

As early as 1770 a pike passed through what is now Schuylkill County. This pike went from Philadelphia to Sunbury through Minersville. However, as it was kept in repair by voluntary labor, it was passable only on horseback.

The Sunbury or Center Turnpike

On March 25, 1805, a stock company was organized to build a better road from Philadelphia. This road passed through Port Clinton, Orwigsburg, Pottsville, New Castle, two miles from Frackville, into Fountain Springs, Ashland and then to Sunbury. This road, well built, and kept in good repair, became the chief access to Philadelphia.

During the year 1812, a permanent stage line made weekly trips

between Sunbury and Philadelphia; and, by 1829, traveling increased to such an extent, as to require three daily stage lines.

Because of the few towns along these early roads, small hotels, commonly called "Taverns," were found here and there along them to provide rest and recreation. Ruins of two such taverns are found on this road near Frackville one of which, "Mountain Tavern," was owned by Necho Allen.

The Catawissa Pike

This was the only early road passing through what is now Frackville. Coming from Shenandoah through Maizeville, it passed up Catawissa St., through the lots between Balliet and Center Streets; down Center St. and up the mountain, behind the Mud Run Dam and meeting the Sunbury Pike just above the 2nd "Mountain Tavern."

On the site where now stands Frack's gasoline station, stood a livery, where coming and going stages changed horses. A man named Dreser drove the stage from this livery to Schuylkill Haven. At upper New Castle and at Mt. Carbon, in Pottsville, were two toll gates. John Locke was tollmaster of the one at New Castle.

This pike is very old, existing before 1848, the first definite date known. The southern portion of this road is now abandoned, though the northern portion still forms one of the busiest outlets from the town.

The Stephen-Girard Road

This road was built about 1836 and was constructed at the expense of and by the authority of Norwegian Township. The present state road follows this pike rather closely.

The Mahanoy Plane Road

In the year 1865, a road was built between Frackville and Mahanoy

Plane. D. P. Haupt operated a stage line on this road from 1870 to about 1900. In recent years, it has been abandoned because of cave-ins resulting from the road being undermined.

The Ashland Highway

About 1842 a road, which was built by Barry and Butler Townships, was opened through Fountain Springs into Ashland. This road went through the valley between Frackville and Fountain Springs. About the year 1926, this road was closed and a new one built on the side of the mountain. The valley was then taken over by Ashland Borough which built dams for a water supply.

The Morea Road

In 1904, West Mahanoy and Mahanoy Townships hired Alexander Scott to build a road into Mahanoy City. This road was considered a beautiful one before the strippings were put in operation. It still forms the outlet to Mahanoy City from Frackville.

(The information on the early roads of Frackville was obtained from Henry W. Miller.)

RAILROADS

Railroads have always played a big part in the developing of towns and cities. In 1862, after rich deposits of coal were found in the vicinity, the Phila. and Reading Railroad Co. built one to Frackville for the purpose of hauling the coal to Phila. However, because of the steepness of Broad Mountain this was a difficult task. As early as 1830 a road had been attempted by Stephen Girard. This road had operated by means of a series of planes located along various points of the road. However, after some shipment of coal over this road, it was abandoned in 1836.

Now, the hard task of building this road fell upon the Phila. and Reading Co. and, knowing that sooner or later this would be attempted, they determined to finish this work themselves, and so in 1862 the entire road, including Mahanoy Plane was completed by Geo. G. Roberts, Chief Engineer.

As Frackville was just a village at this time most of the miners came from St. Clair and other towns, thus a "Miner's Train" had to be sent daily to take the miners to the mines and as some other passengers wished to travel more quickly, the company hitched on a "monkey-box" or a "caboose." This continued until the year 1869 when John Haupt wanted to establish a regular passenger system. This was accomplished during that same year. This train made a trip every morning and noon, and later an evening train was added to the schedule.

About the year 1886, the Phila. and Reading Co. started to extend its road to Shenandoah. At this time its rival, the Pennsylvania Railroad Co., was also trying to get control of this route to Shenandoah; so, during the night, the Pennsylvania crew came and tore up the rails of the Phila. and Reading Company and threw them over the embankment. They then built a temporary building on the spot, in which a number of police were stationed, after which the road was completed to Shenandoah. By this time the Plane house, which had been burned, was rebuilt and, by a mutual agreement, each company allowed the other to use the tracks and thus ended the strife between those companies.

As railroad transportation was faster, it soon completely took over the business of the stage coaches; but, later, as we shall see, the automobile buses and trucks almost completely took over the business of the railroads.

The Electric Trolley Car

The trolley car first appeared in Frackville about the year 1915. It closely followed the railroad tracks to St. Clair. From Frackville to Shenandoah it followed the present state road, then going around the Lawrence dirt bank it crossed Mahanoy Creek and went along the highway and then cut up the mountain toward Shenandoah.

During the year 1923 a strike occurred for higher wages. However, as the company itself was operating at a loss, it did not continue business and in the year 1925 the tracks were sold to a junk dealer, though remains of the tracks may still be seen in several places.

Automobile Buses

After the trolley went out of operation the Reading Transportation Co. placed automobile buses on the road. There are now three different bus lines passing through Frackville: The Reading, the Schuylkill, and the Lakes to Sea Stage Companies. The latter operates through Ashland also.

INDUSTRIES

The growth of Frackville can easily be shown by tracing the growth of the coal industry in this district. Were it not for this industry, Frackville would not be the prosperous town it is.

Coal was first discovered in this region as early as 1770. The first methods for obtaining the coal were quite crude because the only available tools were the pick, the shovel, and the wheel-barrow. The slate and dirt which were found in the coal had to be removed by hand.

Because of the lack of railroads at the time the coal had to be hauled in ordinary road wagons to the landings along the Schuylkill River. This method of transportation

was changed by the appearance of the railroads in 1830. Today because of the efficient machinery used in the collieries, great quantities of coal can be produced in a short time. A large proportion of the male population of the town is engaged in working in the mines and collieries which are located near Frackville.

Lumbering, the industry next in importance, is even older than the coal industry in Frackville. Since the founding of Frackville, small sawmills carried on this business until the year 1913 when the first lumber company made its appearance. This company, the Frackville Lumber and Supply Co., was built and operated by James Bradley and Albert McCabe.

In the year 1922, Geo. Burchill took over the present Geo. Burchill Lumber Co. This company was in operation before 1922, but no certain date is known for its beginning. The office of the company is situated on Lehigh Avenue.

Geo. A. Haupt, Jr., is the owner and manager of the George A. Haupt, Jr., Lumber Co., organized March 1st, 1924. The office of the company is in the three story brick building known as the Haupt Building, which is located on Frack St.

The factories of Frackville constitute its next important industry. The first shirt factory in Frackville was built in 1883 and was owned and operated by J. J. Phillips and Co. It was situated at the extreme southern end of Balliet St. It was shut down in 1920 and in 1925, was destroyed by fire.

The Merit Shirt Factory is situated on the corner of Balliet and Oak Sts. This factory was first owned and operated by W. E. Belles. Later it was taken over and

operated by Clarence W. Blickly and now by Henry Rozemma.

The shirt factory of the H. D. Bob Company Inc. is located on the corner of Oak Street and Broad Mountain Ave. This factory, after being destroyed by fire was rebuilt in 1924. Almost one year later a new addition was built, still later in 1929 another addition was built. A part of this new addition is used as a store-room and part is used as a shipping room.

Frackville also has numerous stores. The chief department store is the Natalie Store Company, located on the south-east corner of Lehigh Avenue and Frack Streets. This is a company store being a subsidiary of Madeira Hill and Co.

On the upper floors of the Natalie Store Company Building are located the offices of Madeira Hill and Co. This company moved their offices from Pottsville to Frackville in 1914, in order that they might be in closer touch with their operating collieries. They employ approximately 50 people in their offices. The company operates six collieries and four breakers which are located near Frackville.

Frackville has two theatres, the New Garden Theatre and the Victoria Theatre, both located on Lehigh Ave. They are owned by Michael Kerrigan of Gliberton and managed by Thomas Elliot of Frackville.

THE CHURCHES

(The historical facts about the churches were obtained from the Revs. A. E. Shellhase, A. J. Kimker, Henry Lehn, W. H. Egge, W. N. Killian, S. O. Sterner, W. L. Gallenkamp, Theo. Zielinsky, S. Gartska, S. J. Norbutis, S. S. Milnick and Basil Gambal.)

In a history as brief as this, it will be possible to chronicle only a very few of the facts connected

with the establishment of each church in this community.

St. Peter's Reformed Church

The Rev. T. J. Bower, of St. Clair, organized the St. Peter's Reformed Church in Frackville when he and a small congregation held the first meeting the 29th day of July, 1890 in the home of Franklin Brown. They immediately rented a hall on Balliet St., in which they held services for almost two years. In the spring of 1892 a lot was purchased from Wm. Haupt, on the east side of South Nice St., upon which a church was erected. The new building was dedicated Oct. 30, 1892. The building, with improvements which have been added in the last few years, is the present place of worship. Rev. T. J. Bower was succeeded by Rev. D. J. Wetzel. The present pastor is Rev. A. E. Shellhase, who took charge in 1924. The congregation now consists of 260 members with an attendance of 375 for the Sunday School.

Methodist Episcopal Church

The first Methodist Church was built on a lot donated by Daniel Frack. Due to the smallness of the membership the church was sold to the Evangelical denomination. In 1881 another church was built on a lot on the east side of South Balliet Street. The first pastor was Rev. W. W. Wisegraver. In 1901, the old church was remodeled and enlarged. In 1926, a new church and parsonage was built on the site of the old church and parsonage. The present pastor of the church is Rev. A. J. Kimker.

Christ Episcopal Church

The first services of Christ Episcopal Church were held here by George Rogers, a Lay Reader, from the Holy Apostles Episcopal Church,

St. Clair, in the early part of the year 1876. The first regular service was held by Rev. Daniel Washburn of Ashland, Dec. 25th, 1876 in a small school house on North Nice St. In December 1886 they began the erection of a church building on a lot located on the east side of South Balliet St. The lot had been donated to the church by Daniel Frack, Sr., during the year 1877. In 1908, another church was built on the corner of Nice and Frack Sts. which is still the place of worship under the pastorate of a Co-Rector, Rev. John Henry Lehn who also has charge of St. John's Church in Ashland.

Trinity United Evan. Church

In the year 1874 a group of faithful Christians organized the first congregation under the name of the United Evangelical Church. The place of organization was a small frame school house located on North Nice St. After worshipping for a short while in this building, the old church property of the Methodists, on the west side of North Balliet St. was purchased and the Trinity Congregation then worshipped in a regular Church edifice. The first pastor was Rev. G. H. Laury. In the year 1901 a new brick church was erected on a lot adjoining their old property on the north. At present the church has a membership of over 450. The present pastor is Rev. W. H. Egge.

St. Joseph's Church

The first Roman Catholic Church, the St. Joseph's Church, was located on the east side of Broad Mountain Ave. The building had formerly been the east side school house. It was purchased in the spring of 1894 and remodeled into a church. The Rev. John Loughran, the priest at Mahanoy Plane was also in charge of the work at Frackville. The present church is located on the corner of Centre and Frack Sts. The Church was erected in May, 1909.

The cornerstone of the school and chapel was laid September, 1912. The school was dedicated and opened for the fall term in 1913. The present pastor is the Rev. W. N. Killian.

The Church of God

The first service of the Church of God was held by the Rev. J. M. Fahl, of Auburn, in Kehler's Hall, December, 1897. A lot was purchased from the Frack estate on South Balliet St. upon which a Church was erected. The church was dedicated Dec. 8th, 1901. The present pastor of the Church is Rev. S. O. Sterner.

Zion's Evan. Luth. Church

In 1872, the Lutheran Ministerium of Pennsylvania established a preaching point in Frackville. The Rev. John Gruhler, former missionary to Palestine, was appointed to conduct the services at Frackville. The first service was held June 16, 1872, in a small frame school house on the east side of N. Nice St. In 1873, Daniel Frack presented a lot, located on S. Lehigh Ave., to the congregation. The building of the new church was begun during the year 1873, and was completed during the latter part of 1874. The present church is located on the corner of Nice and Oak Sts. The erection of this stone edifice was begun April 6, 1924. The membership of the Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church is about 335. The present pastor is Rev. W. L. Galenkamp.

Polish National Church

The first services of the Polish National Church were held in Frackville at Bradley's Hall in the year 1923. After the services the people met and decided to establish a church with the aid of the Shenandoah congregation. A committee was appointed early in 1923,

and a lot was purchased, located on the corner of Second and Oak Sts. The church was completed in December, 1923. The first pastor was the Rev. Stanley Cybulsky. When first organized, the church consisted of 52 families, now it consists of 102 families. The present pastor is the Rev. Theodore Zielinsky.

St. Ann's Church

The St. Ann's Roman Catholic Church is situated on the corner of Spring and Line Sts., in the Crestmont Addition. The congregation was organized June 14, 1924, and the church was dedicated May 31, 1926. The Rev. S. V. Gartska was the first, and is also the present pastor of the church.

The Annunciation Church

The Annunciation Blessed Virgin Mary's Church was founded in Frackville during the year 1917, with a membership of about 600. The church is located on Broad Mountain Ave. The first resident pastor was the Rev. A. E. Bakunas. The present pastor is the Rev. S. J. Norbutis.

St. Michael's Ukranian Church

St. Michael's Ukranian congregation held the first services in Bradley's Hall. The church, which is located on Oak St., was built in 1921. The congregation consists of 137 families. The first pastor of the church was the Rev. John J. Fekula. The present pastor is the Rev. S. S. Milanick.

Russian Orthodox Church

The Russian Orthodox Church is located on South Lehigh Avenue. It was built during 1914 and dedicated in the Spring of 1916. The first pastor of the Church was the Rev. Andrew Vanyush. The present pastor is the Rev. Basil Gambal.

Educational Development

Great development in educational advantages has taken place in Frackville since 1861; from a small one or two-roomed frame building to large, spacious, fireproof, many-roomed buildings; from one teacher for all grades to a teacher for each grade! Schools have grown with the town.

Fifteen years before the incorporation of the borough the first school was built. It was a small frame building situated at the corner of Nice and High Sts. There were nine pupils in the class at that time. The teacher was Miss Sallie Gilbert. In 1887, a two-story, six-roomed building was erected at the corner of Frack and Balliet Sts. During this time the increase in the number of pupils made it necessary to grade the schools. They were divided into three grades, with a teacher for each grade. At the incorporation of the borough the first School Principal, W. W. Wood, was elected and served from 1876-1880. The third school built in Frackville was located at the corner of Frack Street and Broad Mountain Ave. Again the schools were graded, this time into six grades. In 1913, at the corner of Frack and Centre Sts., the School named the Lincoln School was built. This was used as the High School from the time of its erection until 1931. In 1925, it became necessary to build another grade school. This was called the Washington School and is modern in all ways. It is a three-story building with five rooms on the first floor, four on the second, and four on the third floors. Crowded conditions in the High School necessitated an addition to the Washington School. This addition was made in the year 1930-31. The High School moved into the building a few weeks before Christmas, 1931. Not only are the pupils

occupying the building, proud of it, but the whole town is justly proud of this fine new school. There is a spacious gymnasium in the school, where students may participate in athletics and physical education. There is a large stage in the auditorium, and this is used, not only for class plays, etc., but also for the weekly assemblies.

A library was started in the former High School, in 1926; at the time of its organization there were approximately 100 volumes. Since then it has developed steadily, and today there are approximately 1000 volumes in the library. Miss Alice Morgan is the Head Librarian. Students interested in library work have the privilege of becoming student librarians.

Until the year 1925, the only course in High School was the Academic Course. This was a disadvantage because of the fact that every one had to take this course, whether he was going to take up a profession in which the Academic Course was necessary, or whether he wished to take a Business Course. Today, the students have their choice of either the Academic or Commercial Course.

At present the Supervising Principal of the schools is Wm. R. Trautman. The High School Principal is Charles W. Drumm. The members of the Board of Education are: Messrs. John E. Beddow, J. K. Berk, M. D., Jas. Eisenhower, Benj. V. Moyer, Samuel Burchill and D. Frank Hoppes.

The increase in the population of Frackville can be shown by the increase in the enrollment of pupils in the schools. The first class had only nine pupils and the present day enrollment is 2400,

PUBLIC UTILITIES

The Mountain City Water Co.

(Information Obtained From
Wm. Haupt)

The Mountain City Water Co. was incorporated on April 17, 1883. The charter was granted by an act of Legislature giving the Water Company the right of eminent domain in Frackville. There were only a few charters granted at this time and none since 1884. The charter members were: F. S. Haupt, Henry Haupt, Wm. Haupt. The water was pumped from the stream located at the south end of town and the transmission main ran up the alley between Third and Fourth Street to Pine, then East on Pine to Second, north on Pine to John Street. The reservoir was located on the north west corner. Then the Ashland Borough Water Co. claimed the water rights on their stream, and, by a court decision, the Mountain City Water Co. had to change their source of supply. However, about 1888 they drilled a six foot well on North Nice St. for a supply and installed a deep well pump. Then in 1902, it was sold to J. J. Kehler, and in 1903 sold by J. J. Kehler to D. Gring of Newport, Perry Company. At this time the pipe lines of the Water Co. supplied the north west portion of town, (North of Frack St. and west of Lehigh Ave.) When Mr. Gring came in possession, the mains were extended all over the town—Mr. Shollenberger of Hamburg having the contract. In April, 1905, Wm. C. Haupt was appointed Superintendent of the Water Co. They then drilled two more wells at the North Nice St. location and built the present reservoir in 1906. In March, 1912, the Water Company was purchased by G. H. Frank, Frank H. Zinn, Wm. Manny, Rev.

Hart and Wm. C. Haupt. They drilled two more wells on the North Nice St. property and installed air compressors, boilers and pumps, and built a large pump house. In 1927, the company was bought by the Community Water Supply Company of New York, which owned sixteen plants in the north-eastern part of the United States. In May of 1928, the Water Co. bought 120 lots south of Laurel St. from G. A. Haupt, Sr., and developed an additional water supply. At the present time most of the water supply is derived from this source.

The Electric Light Company

(Information Secured From
Chas. D. Berger)

The Electric Light Co. was organized between the years of 1894 and 1896. The first power house was built at the bottom of the bank along the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, about two hundred feet south of where the present brewery is built. There were two tubular type boilers with a hundred and fifty horsepower each, and one High Speed Ideal Engine. Then, after a few years of successful operation, a water tube boiler with 350 horsepower and an Eclopce Corliss engine were installed. The A. C. dynamo type General Electric with 110 volts as a primer or feature attraction was also added. The direct current was generated from a Thomson Hustend machine or, rather, dynamo, for street lighting only and all A. C. for house lighting.

The Company was composed of stock holders and directors. The directors at that time were: Dr. C. A. Bleiler, Dr. David Taggart, John Dunlap, John Thomas, L. C. Anstock, Orval Miller, David

Haupt, Sr., Samuel Briley, Thos. Lafferty of Girardville, and Mr. Katon of Gilberton. L. C. Anstock had charge of the lines, both A. C. and D. C. through all the territories of Frackville, Gilberton, Girardville, Locust Dale, and Mahanoy Plane. The first electrical operator was a man by the name of Bailey. The early engineers and operators were: Thomas Wonn, Harry Pardon, Archbald Harvey and Charles D. Berger. There were very few electricians in the early years of the company and any trouble which occurred had to be attended to by the engineers and operators. Anthony McCaffery and a man by the name of Thomas were the light trimmers. By this, we mean the men who every day had to walk the entire distances or territories previously mentioned, and recarbon and repair all the street lights, walk back to the power house and report all they had done and the defects. After a number of years of very successful operation the company was sold out to J. G. White and Co. It finally came into the hands of the Eastern Electric Light and Power Co. and at present the Pennsylvania Power and Light Co. has complete charge.

The Telephone Company

Frackville was one of the first towns to adopt the telephone shortly after Alexander Graham Bell introduced it for general use. One was located in the Wm. A. Davis Drug Store, Lehigh Ave., in 1884, located in a glass room.

To call up a central station in St. Clair, or Pottsville, or other local towns, you rang a bell by turning a handle. One ring would possibly call up Saint Clair, two rings Pottsville, and so on. The party called would respond by likewise turning the handle and notifying the party

calling that they were ready to receive the message.

In case of an electrical storm, the flashes of electricity through the room were terrifying, and the door was closed immediately upon the approach of a storm. No one would attempt to use the phone until the storm had subsided. It was quite an art to talk over the telephone in those days, and whenever the phone bell rang, it was necessary to call for Druggist Davis to answer the call until it became more generally understood and others became acquainted with the mechanism.

The various telephone companies waged a battle for supremacy in later years, when the United Telephone Co. entered the region. They existed for some years when the Bell Telephone Co. took over the entire business, prior to that, nearly every business house had both services installed in their establishments, and if you failed to get your party on one phone, you generally succeeded on the second phone.

Under the new management great progress was made. The old hand turning device was abandoned and an automatic system installed whereby you took off the receiver and a central station operator called your party for you.

The telephones under this system were installed in the year 1910. One of the first was installed in the home of Dr. J. K. Berk. A little later telephones were placed in the homes of the following: Mrs. B. O'Donnell, Squire S. T. Purnell, I. D. Thomas, and in the office of the Reading Railroad Company. During the early years of the company service came from Shenandoah, and that city handled all Frackville calls. October 15th, 1927, the Company erected a building at the corner of Spring and Nice Sts. After this, Frackville handled its own calls.

The Gas Company

(Chas. D. Berger furnished the facts about the Gas Co.)

During the years preceding the World War, the Girardville Gas Company began a transaction for the purpose of installing gas mains throughout the streets of Frackville. In 1922 the Anthracite Gas Company was established in Frackville with Mr. J. Reynolds as manager. Until June of 1930 the gas for Frackville came from Girardville but in that year the Mahanoy City Gas Company combined with the Frackville Company and since that time the gas comes from Mahanoy City. The present manager of the Anthracite Gas Company is W. J. Risser.

ORGANIZATIONS

(For information on various organizations, the committee is indebted to Ray Hock for the Rotary; J. H. Witter and Ray Hock for the Business Men's Association; Roy J. Morgan for the Masons; A. D. Farrell for the Elks; Jos. J. Malloy for the K. of C., and Mrs. Wm. Trautman for the Girls' Friendly.)

Organizations, whether civic, social, business or fraternal hold an important place in every town and help to determine the general standard of the community.

The Rotary Club, of Frackville, was organized in May 1928. The first president was E. H. Suender who served a term of two years. Meetings are held once a week in the club rooms of the Elks. The present officers are: President, T. R. Jones; Secy., Ray Hock; Treas., Robert G. Garret; Sergeant-at-Arms, Mark Parmley. At present the club consists of 25 members. The fundamental object of Rotary is service and the presence of a Rotary Club in a community means the betterment of that community through the unselfish activities of Rotary members.

The Business Men's Association

The first Business Men's Organization of Frackville was completed on June 4, 1917 under the name of "The Commercial Association of Frackville." The officers were: President, John H. Witter; Vice-Pres., H. A. Wagner; Secy., Robert Scott; Treas., Harry K. Reich. The present officers are: President, Ray Hock; Secy., A. H. Bevan; Treas., Earl Bowe. Meetings are held once a month. The membership at present consists of about 20 of the leading business men of town. This association has done much to foster good will among the merchants of the town and also has helped to improve the service of the stores to the community.

Lodge No. 737 Masons

The Frackville Masonic Order was instituted by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, May 21, 1925. It was organized and located in the Haupt Building, 25 West Frack St. The first officers were: Worshipful Master, A. Hower Glick; Senior Warden, The Honorable Roy P. Hicks; Junior Warden, Ray Hock; Treas., Robert G. Garret; Secy., Roy J. Morgan. The present officers are: Worshipful Master, Jas. R. Eisenhower; Senior Warden, Joel L. Felsburg; Junior Warden, Victor E. Burchill; Treas., Robert G. Garret; Secy., Roy J. Morgan.

Order of Elks No. 1533

The Elks Lodge of Frackville was organized June 4, 1927 by Chas. W. Grakelow of Phila., who was then the Grand Exalted Ruler of the Order. The Elks club rooms are located in the Berkshire building on North Lehigh Avenue. The first officers were: Exalted Ruler, Richard Krapf; Esteemed Leading Knight, Dr. W. J. Dougherty; Esteemed Loyal Knight, James C. Pearson; Esteemed Lecturing Knight, R. G. Phillips; Secy., C. W. Drumm;

Treas., John J. Becker. The present officers are: Exalted Ruler, Fred R. Wagner; Esteemed Leading Knight, John Marshall; Esteemed Loyal Knight, Dr. J. J. Nedzinskas; Esteemed Lecturing Knight, E. J. Monroe; Secy., A. D. Farrell; Treas., John J. Becker.

Knights of Columbus

The first council of the Knights of Columbus of Frackville was organized June 21, 1925 under the direction of District Deputy, Charles H. Donoghue, of Mahanoy City. This council was named "The Father Hogan Council, No. 2580." The first and second degrees were conferred on June 21 in St. Joseph's Auditorium, Frackville, with a class of at least 80 members. The third degree was given in the St. Fidelis Hall, Mahanoy City on the 28th of June, 1925. The first officers were: Grand Knight, J. C. McGinnis; Deputy Grand Knight, Edward Heim; Financial Secy., Joseph Malloy; Recording Secy., Jacob Kliman; Chancellor, John Thomson; Treas., John Becker; Warden, Victor Zigmond. The club rooms are situated on the second floor of the Garden Theatre Building.

Order of Independent Americans

The "Equity Council" of "The Order of Independent Americans" was organized in Frackville, April 10th, 1905. They hold their meeting in the Odd Fellows Hall on Frack St.

The Daughters of America

The Daughters of America Council No. 87 of Frackville, was organized April 23rd, 1910 with a quota of 82 members present. The present officers are: Councilor, Mary Gough; Vice Councilor, Mary Pearce. The council is located in the Garden Theatre Building at the corner of Oak St. and Lehigh Ave.

The Girls Friendly Society

This society was organized March 5, 1928 by Mrs. Harvey P. Walter

of Bethlehem, Pa. Today the society has a membership of 45. Mrs. W. R. Trautman is the President of the local branch of the Society. She is assisted by: Mrs. D. J. Roberts, and the Misses Grace E. Burchill, Irene Rubright, Margaret R. Cope, Margaretta Watson and Jean Butler. The object of this organization is to reach girls in their most impressionable years and impress upon their minds the usefulness of study, work, and worship. The G. F. S. of Frackville is filling a real need in the community.

Girl Scouts

The Girl Scout troop of Frackville was organized in 1928. Meetings are held weekly in the auditorium of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The Scout Mistress is Mrs. W. C. Barker. The Captain, Mrs. Leddicot; and the Lieutenant, Miss Sara Brassington.

Boy Scouts

Frackville has four troops of Boy Scouts. Mr. Thomas Lewis is at the head of the Frackville Council. The boys hold their meetings weekly and all of them strive to do their best to become and to help others become better citizens. The Scout Commissioner of Schuylkill County is William Watson who until a short time ago resided in Frackville. E. H. Suender a prominent town citizen and general manager of the Madeira Hill and Company is president of the Schuylkill County Board of Review of Boy Scouts.

The "Frackville Star"

The "Frackville Star" is the only town paper which is published in Frackville. It first appeared in April 1892, and was published by U. Grant Mengel, the owner. A foot press was first used to publish the paper. Later, gasoline was used to run the press and now electricity is used. The present editor and manager is Miss Lyle Mengel. It is

published every Saturday at North Nice St., Frackville.

Good Will Hose Co. No. 1

The Good Will Hose Co. was organized by a meeting of the citizens October 24, 1910. The Gamewell fire alarm system was installed in 1914. Handdrawn apparatus was used until April, 1922, when the LaFrance pumper was received and in October, 1924 the Hahn Ladder Truck.

The Frackville of Today

Today Frackville has a population of 8,034 compared with only 3,184 in 1910. Frackville is still growing and will continue to grow in the future. Frackville is near the mines, yet off the coal basin. People are free from the annoyance of dust and dirt and are free from the mine breaker danger. The air is pure because of the high elevation and is an added inducement for living in this "Mountain City."

There is an opportunity for advancement for all. Frackville is proud of the fact that one of the Judges of Schuylkill County is its honored citizen, Roy P. Hicks. Mr. Hicks was reared in Frackville and educated in its public schools.

The town is progressive as shown by its numerous organizations and stores which have been discussed in the foregoing pages. The people are noted for their hospitality.

Situated as it is, upon the highest point on Broad Mountain, Frackville possesses the unique position of having an unlimited water supply, pure as the purest, and scientists say it originates from the Great Lakes on the North, finding its way to this point through the strata of rock that starts there. Whatever the reason for it, Frackville had an ample supply when the entire state was suffering from lack of water during the drought.

It was from this eminence that Stephen Girard overlooked the Mahanoy Valley from which he opened vast tracts of virgin coal, bringing it to the top of the grade about 100 yards from the present Reading Railroad tunnel beneath the tracks leading to the Mahanoy Plane.

This coal was brought up the incline through which the deep cut in the rock was made at the junction of the Maizeville and the abandoned Mahanoy Plane road, hauled up in wagons on a wooden rail, the top covered with flat iron to prevent the wood from being too readily destroyed, mules pulling the wagons to the first level near the present railroad tracks leading to the Madeira-Hill breaker, thence to the highest point to another level, the ropes or cable winding around a drum with mule power to hoist and lower. From this point the wagons virtually descended to Port Carbon by gravity, with an occasional level which brought the mules again into use to lower or raise the loaded wagons of coal, or empty wagons returning to the Mahanoy Valley.

Prominent Citizens

In the early 70's an influx of people came from the British Isles and settled in Frackville, England, Wales, Ireland and Scotland contributing to the number, mostly from mining districts in the British Isles that were suffering from a similar depression to that experienced in our own section during the years of 1929, 1930 to 1933 inclusive. These men proved to be staunch citizens for any community, and Frackville received a goodly share of this admirable race.

For instance, there were the Beddow, Richards, Thomas, Davis, Phillips, Hodgert, Clifford, Chappel, Heywood, Roberts, Vaughan, Harris, Burns, Clarke, Fowler families and many others.

Out of this citizenship, which soon became Americanized, the Frackville school district selected its members of the school board, Thomas Phillips being one of the first. He was a sturdy citizen, and realizing knowledge was of first importance to his increasing family, purchased a set of Encyclopedia Britannica, which ended in a surprising result. His son John took up the study of telegraphy. Next door to his home, his young brother-in-law, Thomas Richards, resided. They purchased a Morse sending and receiving set. Both homes were connected and in a short time, John was called by the Reading Company to accept the position of telegrapher at the standpipe, Frackville, later transferred to Reading where he became the superintendent of the Hall Signal Service of the Reading Co. He did surprising things in bringing this system to perfection. These two families were musicians and through their efforts Frackville possessed the most efficient male chorus, taking active part in competition at Eisteddfods and other like events in the county. At Reading, Mr. Phillips kept up his music, forming a high class orchestra in his own home. From this circle, one daughter, Edna, became the solo harpist of the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra, under Stokowski, and retains that position. For some years she held a similar position with Roxy, in New York.

A tragic note might be introduced here. One daughter, Margaret, went to Shanghai, China, to wed Christy Mathewson. On their honeymoon, the plane in which they were traveling with Mr. Mathewson as pilot, crashed on the banks in Shanghai harbor, killing the bride, and seriously injuring the pilot. Mrs. Mathewson was interred in the Odd Fellows Cemetery, Frackville in February, 1933.

Thos. Richards, mentioned above, was called as a telegraph operator to one of the prominent coal companies and went to a high position in coal mining circles in Luzerne and adjoining counties.

These two men owe their success to the foresight of School Director Thomas Phillips who believed in education though he lacked the opportunity to procure a school education in England, but made excellent use of the Britannica.

Another Frackville school director was Matthew Beddow, superintendent at the Lawrence Colliery. One son, William, after the family removed to Minersville, decided he wanted to be a slate picker. His father failed to get him to enter a college. Two weeks trial was sufficient to get his consent, and he entered college at Williamsport, Pa. After his graduation, he studied law in Pottsville, and later was accepted as a member of the Bar. Seeking adventure, he went South to practice, but finding colored population predominant, he left the South and took up his future home in Seattle, Wash. One day a woman client came into his office, and after discussing business said she and her sister had a tract of land, or stone quarry in the Sucia Islands, which title was being disputed. She begged Mr. Beddow to purchase it for a reasonable sum, but he, having no financial standing that would enable him to take advantage of the offer, came East to wed a Miss Barclay, at Williamsport, Pa. While there his wife talked over the matter with her parents, with the result that they went to Washington, took an interest in the Sucia Islands, which are 10 miles out in the Pacific from Anacortes. The property had vast quantities of stone then used for paving city streets. A force of 20 workmen were engaged to blast out the rock, cut it up into the regulation sized blocks, which

were shipped on scows down Puget Sound to Seattle. It was a profitable business which promised great things for them, but the U. S. Government, finding it necessary to procure this entrance from the Pacific to Puget Sound for defensive purposes, condemned the same, and finally purchased it for a much smaller sum than Mr. Beddow and his associates considered it worth. Mr. Beddow, who was a Frackville student, died suddenly a few years ago. He was appointed by Pres. Woodrow Wilson as the Pacific representative on the Naval Board of Strategy during the World War.

George B. Hadesty, at present residing in Pottsville, was a son of the Frackville representative for the Reading Co. The young man went to college, returned and became one of the foremost mining and civil engineers in the County, being in the employ of the Reading Coal & Iron Co. until his retirement some years ago, the acknowledged most widely informed man in the coal industry.

Wm. H. Keffer, another Frackville boy became district superintendent of the Reading Railroad with headquarters at Reading. He died some years ago practically a young man, it is supposed due to the strenuous efforts necessary to carry the burden of railroading in connection with the coal industry and its allied problems during stirring times on the railroads and in mining industries.

Enoch Roberts, another emigrant from the British Isles, with his wife gave their children an excellent education with the result that one son, Wm. E. Roberts, is at present an attorney of much prominence in New York.

Graduating from Frackville High School, he entered Kutztown State Normal School; later taught in Frackville public schools for four years; next entered Bucknell, gradu-

ating in 1904; following this he became principal of Frackville High School for two years, then entered Harvard Law School for three years, graduating in 1909. After four years of legal practice in New York City, he became a member of a law firm which afterwards took the name of Murray, Aldrich & Roberts, withdrawing in 1929 to practice law for himself. He became president of the Manhattan Railway Company in 1922 and for the past year and a half has been Receiver for that Company. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, a member of the Board of Trustees of Bucknell. He resides in Scarsdale, N. Y., and has a family of three daughters.

Wm. W. Clifford a school director at Frackville in the early 1870's, also an emigrant from the British Isles, was secretary of the board for some years. One son, Edmund L., has been in the employ of the late Editor J. H. Zerbey, Pottsville, since he left Frackville years ago, and no matter what part of the world he may visit, finds Schuylkill County is still the finest place on earth. He is at present treasurer of the J. H. Zerbey Newspapers Inc., Pottsville. He had the honor of publishing "Schuylkill County, Penna., In The World War", with thirteen thousand Schuylkill County registered names during the World War compiled in same.

Howard G. Wascher has become known internationally through his association with The Corn Products Company of Chicago. He was born in Frackville on Nov. 5, 1885 and received his public school education here. He graduated from the local high school in 1903. Immediately after graduation he became a student at Bucknell University where he remained one year and entered Lehigh University in September, 1904. After attending here for four

years he received the degree of Electrical Engineer in June, 1908. In September of the same year he went to Chicago to accept a position with the Corn Products Company, and since that time he has been an important part of this great corporation. Twelve years of this time were spent in the Company's plant at Pekin, Ill. and in 1920 Mr. Wascher was transferred to Europe with headquarters in London to become the General Manager of the European Plants of the Corn Products Company. At present, Mr. and Mrs. Wascher are on their way to Japan where Mr. Wascher will engage in important representations for his company.

John M. Bell came with his parents to live in Frackville in the fall of 1875 and occupied their new home on Broad Mountain Ave. where his sisters now reside. The family had formerly resided at a small mining village known as East Franklin, near Tremont, in the same county. There he had received a very limited education in the public school and had gone to work in the coal breaker at a very early age.

He worked in and around the coal mines until finally he became a contract miner, the acme of that occupation.

While a resident of Frackville he participated in many of the social and community affairs and was Worthy Chief Templar of the Good Templars Lodge for several years, and also Master Workman of the Local Assembly of the Knights of Labor during its existence.

In 1888, he went to the Pacific Coast to seek his fortune but soon returned to his home because he found the coast crowded by people on the same mission.

Having become interested in stenography as an occupation in June, 1890, he quit the mines for good and went to Philadelphia and took a six

months course in shorthand, type-writing and commercial law. This course was supplemented by a post-graduate course of three months at Chaffee's Institute, a famous shorthand school at Oswego, N. Y.

Feeling competent to accept any employment in this profession and armed with a certificate to this effect from Prof. Chaffee, he went to New York City in June, 1891, and was successful in gaining employment as stenographer and secretary to Mr. Williams the proprietor of a large instalment house on 23rd St. After a short time in this employment he entered the office of Addison Ely, Esq., Counsellor-at-Law, of Rutherford, N. J. as stenographer and assistant and later began the study of law under Mr. Ely and in November, 1894, was admitted to the bar of New Jersey. In March of the following year he was appointed Attorney for the Borough of Rutherford and held that office for twenty consecutive years. During this period he was also attorney for various other municipalities in the County of Bergen. He was one of the incorporators of the Bergen County Bar Association and afterwards served as treasurer and president of the association.

In 1898 he was elected to the House of Assembly of the New Jersey Legislature and served two terms and afterwards served as a member of the Passaic Valley Flood Commission after the disastrous floods of 1902 and 1903.

He is married and has two grown-up sons, the eldest of whom is associated with his father in business, and the younger, a graduate of Princeton, is at present following a commercial pursuit but expects to study law and become a lawyer.

Jas. H. Pierce, another citizen of whom Frackville is justly proud, was born in Frackville, Sept. 26th, 1887, the son of Edward and Anette

Pierce. He attended the Frackville Primary School, then Girard College until 1904 when he again returned to Frackville and attended the High School, until 1906 when he entered Lehigh University from which he graduated in 1910 with the degree of Mining Engineer. Sept. 23, 1915, he married Sara R. Hicks of Frackville. Since 1910 he has been a Mining Engineer with the Lehigh Valley Coal Co., Division engineer with the Consolidation Coal Co., this comprising eight bituminous mines; Chief Mining Engineer with the Paint Creek Collieries Co. from 1912 to 1913 and Gen. Supt. of the company, comprising ten bituminous mines, from 1913 until 1915, at which time he accepted the position of Manager of the East Bear Ridge Colliery Co., until 1919 when he became Vice Pres. of the Thorne, Neale and Co.'s, Anthracite and Bituminous properties. In 1927,

he became Vice Pres. of the Stuart, James & Cooke, Inc., New York, Mining Engineers and on Nov. 1, 1932 formed the James H. Pierce & Co., a firm of Engineers and Mine Managers. At the present time, he is President and Director of the East Bear Ridge Colliery Co., Vice Pres. and Treas. and Director of the Wyoming Valley Collieries Co., Director of Stuart, James & Cooke and Director and Consulting Manager of the Scranton Coal Company, Operating Manager of the Price-Pancoast Coal Co., Operating Manager of the West End Coal Co. and President of the Jas. H. Pierce & Co. In July, 1933, he was appointed Technical Adviser to N. R. A., and in Jan., 1934, was appointed by President Roosevelt to the National Bituminous Coal Industrial Board. He resides at 520 Clay Av., Scranton



